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The GEM wishes all its readers, advertisers and contributors a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - our next edition will be January 2, 2020.

Bridgend turns blue after 30 years

THE exit polls predicted it and they were right.

Bridgend has its first Conservative MP since 1983, providing a huge blow to Labour, who knew it would be tight but thought they had the edge.

The turnout for the constituency was 66.89% with 42,341 votes being cast.

Labour's Madeleine Moon, who has been Bridgend's MP for 14 years, said she was deeply disappointed.

"This was not just somewhere that was my constituency, this is my home.

"It's where I've served as a councillor and an MP for well over 30 years.

"This place really matters to me.

"It now has a Conservative MP and people will have to hold him to account for the austerity and the cuts that we are experiencing now, and that with a harsh Brexit we are going to experience again in the future.

"But it has been an absolute delight working for and serving this community but it's come to an end so I'm going to go off and enjoy being a grandmother."

She said it was up to Dr Wallis to prove that he could protect the constituency, saying he would find the transition to Westminster tough.

She said: "He's got three years on a parish council. He will find Westminster a totally tough and different place to operate.

"What worries me for Bridgend is that while you learn the job you become whips' fodder – you vote the way you are told because you don't know any different, so he has to prove himself.

"People will be able to hold him to account because policies are going to come from the Conservative Party."

She said, having seen the exit polls, the result had not come as a great shock.

She lost to Dr Wallis by more than 1,000 votes, having previously had a majority of over 4,000 votes.

In his acceptance speech, Dr Wallis paid tribute to Mrs Moon and thanked her for what she had done over the last 14 years.

He said: "I will endeavour to deserve the votes that have been cast here today."

Speaking after the announcement of his historic win, he said: "I'm delighted to have won – it's been an amazing campaign, I can't thank the volunteers and members enough, I've had a lot of support behind me.

"It was always about trying to win voters who had never voted Conservative before, that's where the challenge was.

"I think we did very well reaching out to people we never had before.

"What I want to do for Bridgend now is to keep doing that.

"We need to keep focusing on winning around people that perhaps have historically voted Labour or for another party.

"We need to work hard for them.

"I want to be an active MP who campaigns on local issues and who spends as much time as possible in the constituency and I want to do my bit for Bridgend and Porthcawl and try to make it an even better place to live and work."

Jamie Wallis won the election with 18,193 votes while Madeleine Moon received 17,036.

In third place came the Liberal Democrat Jonathan Pratt with 2,368 and fourth was Leanne Lewis of Plaid Cymru with 2,013.

The Brexit Party's Robert Morgan came fifth with 1,811 votes and Alex Harris from the Green Party came sixth with 815 votes.

Elizabeth Bradfield
Local democracy reporter

LEFT: Outgoing MP Madeleine Moon.

RIGHT: Victorious Dr Jamie Wallis.

See page 3 for Ogmore's results

The Porthcawl Christmas Morning Swim is back !

THE Porthcawl Christmas Morning Swim will be back again this year, celebrating its 55th year and organisers are expecting more than 1,200 swimmers, making it the largest event of it's kind in the UK.

Once again, swimmers are expected from all over the UK, and from further afield, including from Austrailia and Dubai.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8.

ABOVE: The start of the swim in 2017. Photo by Andy Wicks.

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Readers' Letters

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

The silent majority has spoken

FINALLY, the silent majority has been heard.

After years of listening to political has beens like Tony Blair, John Major and Lord Heseltine, and years of watching interviews outside Parliament, where the shouting and bawling and waving of Remainer placards overwhelmed any sensible debate, those who voted to leave the EU stopped it all with one stroke of the pen

It still may not work out well in the future negotiations with the EU, although they have more to lose.

However, there is one winner in all this - democracy.

Democracy has poked its head over the parapet and is grinning at those politicians who tried to bury it.

Philip Sanders
Barry.

Candidate fought with integrity

IN the wake of last week's General Election, I would like to congratulate Belinda Loveluck-Edwards, the Labour candidate.

She may not have been elected as the Vale's MP but she did the Vale proud in the way she conducted her campaign.

Belinda is a woman of integrity who fought a consistently positive campaign.

She did not launch personal attacks or smear campaigns.

Instead she stood proudly for Labour's policies and was truly impressive in the strong and honest personal qualities she brought to the campaign trail.

Belinda's 'Real voice for the Vale' has not been silenced. She may have narrowly lost this battle but the fight will go on.

Sue White, Barry

Try dry January and reset your relationship with alcohol

IT can be difficult to say no to a drink, especially during the festive season.

In fact, our new research shows that 78 per cent of Brits drink more than they want or intend to. Over one in five (23 per cent) feel pressured to drink more than they want to by people they know: most often friends and colleagues.

These findings show that lots of us are drinking in ways that we don't feel comfortable with, but it can be tricky to know how to make a change.

Signing up for Dry January is a brilliant place to start.

Being alcohol-free for 31 days shows us we don't need alcohol to have fun, to relax, or socialise. Strong evidence tells us that Dry January helps people – even heavy drinkers – to drink more healthily all year round.

People who take on Dry January get a whole host of benefits, from losing weight to more money in their pockets and healthier insides.

So if you're up for resetting your relationship with alchohol and improving your health, sign up for Dry January at dryjanuary.org.uk or download the free app for Dry January and beyond, Try Dry.

People who sign-up are twice as likely to go the whole month without drinking compared who those who try to do it alone.

Dr Richard Piper
Alcohol Change UK.

Thanks from Friends and Neighbours

I would like to take the opportunity on behalf of Friends and Neighbours in Barry to thank all those who have supported this group.

The group has grown immensely this year with some 80 members including volunteers, and we now have a waiting list due to its popularity.

Many lonely and isolated people have joined and made many new acquaintances, and have met up with old friends.

The group has had an amazing 2019 including trips to Hay on Wye, Ledbury, Cadburys Garden Centre, a local lunch at Cwm Talwg, a visit to the panto Beauty and Beast and to the Wales Millennium Centre to see Joseph and Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.

With sponsorship from Morrisons, Asda, Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Tesco and Barry Rotary, 60 plus members enjoyed a Christmas lunch at Barry Masonic Hall, with entertainment from Mark Shepherd and a present from Santa.

Thanks go this year to Community Matters at Waitrose, and to Jane Hutt AM and Alun Cairns MP for their long and outstanding support over the years, and to The GEM for its support in printing our news. Thanks must also go to Barry Town Council and the Vale Council.

Finally I would like to thank my wonderful volunteers Phyl, Marlene, Kat, Alison, Helen, Mary, Sue, Joyce, Linda, Sandra and Susan for all their help.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2020

Gay Fifield
Friends and Neighbours
Barry

Black bags are incinerated

READING past letters in The GEM, many people believe (as I did) that black bags go to landfill.

When I raised my concerns on this to the council official accompanying the collection vehicle, I was informed that black bags are sent for incineration.

This was confirmed by phone by the council waste management department.

John Hall,
Llantwit Major.

GEM NOTE: *A Vale Council spokesperson said: "Non-recyclable black bag waste is sent to an energy recovery facility in Cardiff where it is used as a fuel to produce electricity for the National Grid."*

'Support your local library'

A town without a library is like a city without a cathedral.

Enjoy them while you can.

Once gone they are almost impossible to get back, and nothing is ever the same again.

Cowbridge Library offers talking books and videos at modest cost - but the use of computers is free, just like the loan of books.

A bus pass is also free, but you need to be an OAP to qualify, whereas the youngest child can own a library card.

The staff greet you with a smile and are unfailingly courteous and helpful

The library, the repository of knowledge, is the epitome of British culture and needs to be cherished and used.

Children under four attend for story time, but all are welcome at any time. It is reached off the High Street through a passageway, behind Old Hall, and worth a visit if only to admire the 'book' Christmas tree - a true work of art.

ATG Owens,
Cowbridge.

Is gambling an evil in the eyes of the church?

I see yet another church (St David's in Laleston) taking money from the National Lottery for refurbishments (The GEM, December 12, Bridgend edition).

The heads of the churches are the same people who call gambling an evil in our society.

Practice what you preach is my motto.

R Kennedy,
Kenfig Hill

Carers' centre is a 'sanctuary of peace and laughter

I'M a carer for my 36-year-old son who lives with me in Ogmore-by-Sea.

He has epilepsy and learning difficulties.

A year ago my doctor suggested I contacted Bridgend Carers' Centre.

It was one of the best things I did. They offer such a wide range of activities and social occasions.

I've made some wonderful new friends and every one of the staff is magnificent.

It's a little sanctuary of peace and laughter.

Linda Jones
Ogmore-by-Sea.

Thanks to good Samaritans

I would like to offer my grateful thanks to Laura (I don't know her surname) for her much-appreciated help when I fell on the 93 bus recently.

I would also like to thank the others on the bus who provided tissues and plasters which were very much needed. So much kindness was overwhelming.

Margaret Holloman

Barry

A rail line to Cowbridge would be too expensive

I read Mr Langford's letter (The GEM, December 12) with some interest, and whilst I applaud the sentiment, the suggestion that the 'Barry to Cowbridge' line could be revived is not practicable for two major reasons.

Firstly, as far as I'm aware there never was a Barry to Cowbridge line. There was an Aberthaw to Llantrisant line that passed through Cowbridge, but that had no connection to the line from Barry other than shanks' pony.

The Aberthaw to Llantrisant line started at Aberthaw Low Level, and the Barry to Bridgend line went through Aberthaw High Level.

Given the considerable difference in elevation between the two, it was not feasible to physically connect the two lines, and that would still be the issue today.

At the Aberthaw end the route of the Cowbridge line runs straight through the cement works, and then crosses the new road at Old Mill where the bridge has been demolished. The only way to connect Barry to Cowbridge seamlessly by rail would be to build a completely new section to connect the two routes.

The Ordsall Chord, a similar 300 metre long scheme connecting two lines in Manchester, recently cost £85 million!

Secondly, even though sections of the route are still discernible on Google Earth today, the land is no longer in public ownership and most of the stations, including Cowbridge, have since been developed for other uses.

So the route would be of little or no use as a link between Barry and Cowbridge without huge expenditure on track and infrastructure.

I agree that more stations along the route between Barry and Bridgend would be of significant value to the area, but alas that is also no longer a feasible option.

The Gileston halt (which was not on the Aberthaw to Cowbridge route) is now part of someone's garden. Disused station sites have been taken over for other purposes along the entire route, and the cost of reacquiring suitable sites would probably be prohibitive. Finally, could I just add a note of sympathy for the much maligned Dr Beeching?

Although he was the author of the report recommending the rail closures, in reality he was only dancing to Ernest Marples' tune. The latter, as Minister of Transport, promoted the rise of car ownership as a personal freedom to choose how to travel, meaning that a better road system was needed, and so along came motorways.

John Banks,
Rhoose.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

The high tides listed in this week's Gem are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tides times will vary. For instance, in Barry the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

UNTIL DECEMBER 26

Date	Time	Height (metres)
19/12/2019	11.46	8.6
19/12/201		
20/12/2019	00.23	8.4
20/12/2019	12.55	8.5
21/12/2019	01.36	8.4
21/12/2019	13.59	8.6
22/12/2019	02.45	8.7
22/12/2019	15.13	8.8
23/12/2019	03.48	8.9
23/12/2019	16.16	9.1
24/12/2019	04.44	9.4
24/12/2019	17.11	9.6
25/12/2019	05.35	9.7
25/12/2019	17.58	9.8
26/12/2019	06.22	9.9
26/12/2019	18.43	9.8

While the Gem makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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AM piles on pressure over nature reserve's future

WITH less than a month to go until Bridgend County Borough Council's lease on Kenfig Nature Reserve comes to an end, Suzy Davies AM has kept the pressure up.

She has called on the Welsh Government to set our their expectations for how Natural Resources Wales will manage the site once it takes the reserve over in 2020.

Mrs Davies made her demands at the last scheduled First Ministers Questions of the year on December 10.

The lease between Kenfig Nature Reserve and Bridgend County Borough is due to come to an end on 31st December 2019 with Natural Resources Wales taking over the running of the site after that.

Mrs Davies, the Welsh Conservative Assembly Member for South Wales West, paid tribute to the work of local residents and volunteers who "love Kenfig Nature Reserve and who have contributed countless hours of their time to it" - and who have made sure that the long term future of the nature reserve is kept in the public eye.

She went on however to tell the First Minister that "it seems unlikely that NRW will themselves have the capacity to deal with the daily operational control of the site" and so she called on Welsh Government to explain their expectations of Natural Resources Wales when managing the nature reserve until they have found a partner the manage the site for them.

She asked whether the Welsh Government will "be offering any one-off funding or support" to help NRW with Kenfig Nature Reserve, and what advice he would give the owners of the Reserve about allowing "income generation that can contribute towards the cost of conservation."

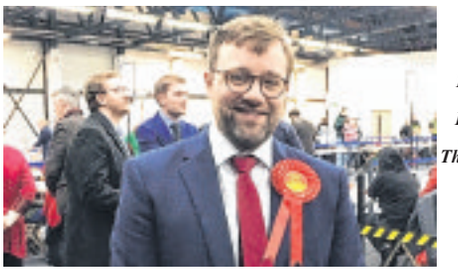
First Minister Mark Drakeford failed to answer the questions but said he expects Natural Resources Wales to work "in close conversation and partnership with both other public bodies and, as Suzy Davies has said, with voluntary organisations."

He added that this will allow them to "come up with a plan that will deal with the manage of this very important ecosystem well into the future."

"So I am pleased the First Minister has recognised that they need to work with other groups and bodies, " said Suzy. "The site owners have been extremely uncommunicative so I hope NRW has better luck than Bridgend County Borough Council appear to have had.

"I do feel Welsh Government is missing an opportunity however. If they were to offer some temporary support to NRW, we could be better assured that Kenfig Nature Reserve is protected while its longer future is clarified."

Labour hold onto Ogmore



LEFT: Chris Elmore at last Thursday's count

LABOUR held onto the Ogmore constituency with Chris Elmore retaining his seat in a comfortable win.

The turnout for Ogmore was 61.63% with 35,490 votes being cast.

Mr Elmore was re-elected with 17,602 votes, half the vote, and with a majority of 7,805 votes – but just over 6,000 votes less than the majority he had at the 2017 election.

The Conservative candidate Sadie Vidal came second, receiving 9,797 votes.

In his acceptance speech, Mr Elmore said he was truly humbled and honoured to be returned.

He said: "There is no greater privilege for me than to represent the place that I love and live."

He said he would keep on fighting for the constituency to ensure investment came into each and every community.

He said: "Fighting to bring in jobs and investment is my absolute priority and always will be."

He said he also planned to do his best to support the many groups and organisations that worked to keep the constituency going.

He said: "I'm delighted to be returned, thank you to everybody who voted for me, and to all those who didn't vote for me, I will carry on working for every constituent, for every village and town right across the Ogmore constituency."

He added: "Clearly this has also been a challenging night for the Labour party across the UK.

"We need to understand and listen to what voters are telling us, it's clearly a lot more than just Brexit and we need to start to listen and reflect on that in the coming weeks and months ahead."

Christine Roach from the Brexit Party came third with 2,991 votes while Luke Fletcher of Plaid Cymru was fourth with 2,919 votes.

Anita Davies from the Liberal Democrats came fifth with 1,460 votes and Tom Muller of the Green Party was sixth, receiving 621 votes.

Elizabeth Bradfield
Local democracy reporter

Tributes to man killed in stabbing

TRIBUTES have been paid to a young man who died after being stabbed in Barry town centre on Monday afternoon.

Jordan Davies, aged 23, died on Holton Road at around 4pm following the fatal assault.

Officers launched a murder investigation and quickly arrested a 24-year-old man, also from Barry, on suspicion of murder.

Jordan Brown, who was known to the victim, was later charged with murder and was set to appear at Cardiff Magistrates' Court on Wednesday morning.

The outcome of the court case was not known at the time of going to press.

Mr Davies' devastated family said: "Jordan was a loving son, brother and father of two young children.

"He was also a keen football player."

They added: "Jordan will be greatly missed by everyone who knew and loved him.

"We ask that our privacy is now respected during what is an extremely difficult time."

DCI Mark O'Shea, senior investigating officer, said: "This was a tragic incident which has cost a young man his life, and has devastated families.

"The attack happened in a busy town centre, and I would like to thank those members of the community who came to Jordan's aid and did what they could to help him.

"While many tried to assist, we know that the incident was captured on camera, and I would appeal to anyone with any mobile phone or dash-cam footage not to share it publicly and instead pass it on to the police so that we can fully investigate and ensure justice for the young victim.

"The public have been really forthcoming with information, which proved key in ensuring a suspect was apprehended quickly. We're still, however, appealing for anyone who has any information – no matter insignificant it may seem – to come forward."

DCI O'Shea also thanked those who supported officers who were at the scene during and after the incident.

He added: "This was an extremely distressing incident for all who were present, including local retailers and shoppers and our officers who remained at the scene. I'm extremely grateful for the patience and kindness shown by generous local residents."

Anyone with information should call South Wales Police on 101, quoting occurrence 1900461821 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Woman dies after crash in care home car park

AN ELDERLY woman has died after a collision in a residential home car park on Porthcawl Road in South Cornelly on Monday, December 16.

Police were called to Morgana Court at around 2.30pm after a silver Renault Captur collided with the 85-year-old woman.

She died at the scene.

The woman's family are being supported by specialist officers and HM Coroner has also been informed.

Officers would like to speak to anyone who witnessed the collision or the moments prior to it.

Anyone with information should contact the Roads Policing Unit by calling 101, quoting occurrence 1900461682.

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BAD Bikes gets cash boost to help more youngsters

MORE youngsters from across the Ogmore Valley are set to benefit from additional support and activities after a £10,000 funding boost has been given to a local charity.

BAD Bikes (Blackmill and District), which was established as a community initiative in 2004, regularly interacts with more than 120 children and young people from across the Ogmore Valley to provide them with youth work sessions, activities and issues-based workshops. Thanks to funding from local energy company, Pennant Walters, they will be able to put on additional activities-based community art and display projects.

The bulk of the funding will go towards running costs for the activities, allowing the charity to fund materials and resources to deliver sessions. The sessions aim to build long-term trusting relationships, explore issues and identify the needs of children and young people. They will regularly produce art which will be proudly displayed across communities including Blackmill, Pantyrawel and Lewistown in order to build up ownership of their area and help portray young people in a positive light.

The ward of Blackmill is a disadvantaged area which is ranked in the top 10% most deprived areas in Wales, according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014, with 38% of children and young people from this area living in poverty, compared with the 27% national average.

Andy McKay, Project Co-ordinator at BAD Bikes explains: "As an organisation we are trying our utmost to help more and more people locally, who, for one reason or another, are fighting to overcome issues and improve their lives. Through BAD Bikes, we are positively impacting the lives of talented youngsters, who just need a bit of help finding themselves and nurturing the talents that haven't yet been uncovered.

"To receive this money is simply wonderful. Without support from companies like Pennant Walters and other fundraisers, we wouldn't be able to support the growing needs of the disadvantaged youngsters living locally in the Ogmore Valley. On behalf of everyone who uses our services, I would like to thank them for their support in helping us deliver our programme, enabling local youngsters to have a more positive outlook."

The money from Pennant Walters was provided from a fund linked to the construction of the new Pant y Wal Wind Extension Farm adjacent to Ogwr Valley. BAD Bikes is a Children in Need funded project and has successfully matched the Pennant Walters funding with the Awards for All Big Lottery fund.

BAD Bikes works to help people across the Ogmore Valley and offers support and advice on a daily basis. Sessions run from 4.30pm and include a variety of workshops based on the arts, with additional free bingo and film nights. BAD bikes also run consultations with children and young people in order for the organisation to work efficiently to the benefit of our stakeholders. There are evening sessions for younger people from their base at 11 Pentre Beili Terrace in Lewistown, with additional activities and sessions held in a variety of settings across the ward of Blackmill.

Man faces triple drugs charges

A MAN from Maesteg will appear at Cardiff Crown Court in the new year to face three drugs related charges, police have revealed.

Gareth Boast went before the city's magistrates' court last week after officers executed a drugs warrant and raided his home in Margam Street.

Mr Boast, aged 40, was remanded in custody and is set to appear at the crown court on January 10.

He faces charges of possessing cocaine with intent to supply, possession of amphetamine and possession of cannabis.

Transfer of Newbridge Fields

BRIDGEND Town Council has issued the following statement:

"Bridgend Town Council would like advise the public that the Town Council has not been formally contacted by Bridgend County Borough Council to be involved in any Community Asset Transfer for the grounds of Newbridge Fields and remains supportive and committed to grass roots sports in our town."

Eich casgliadau sbwriel ac ailgylchu dros y Nadolig

Fe **FYDD** casgliadau ar Noswyl Nadolig ond **NI** fydd unrhyw gasgliadau ar Ddydd Nadolig na Gŵyl San Steffan ac felly bydd popeth yn cael ei gasglu dau ddiwrnod yn hwyrach na'r arfer am weddill yr wythnos tan ddydd Sul 29 Rhagfyr.

Ailgylchwch gymaint â phosibl fel mai dim ond eich mân wastraff dros ben sy'n mynd i'r bin.

Gall eich cardiau Nadolig a'ch holl wastraff bwyd gan gynnwys carcas eich twrci gael eu hailgylchu, ond ni allwch ailgylchu papur lapio.

Fel arfer, mae preswylwyr wedi'u cyfyngu i lenwi dau fag gwastraff bob pythefnos, ond bydd gan bob cartref yr hawl i roi un bag gwastraff ychwanegol allan ar gyfer eu casgliad sbwriel cyntaf ar ôl Dydd Nadolig i helpu i gael gwared ar yr holl wastraff ychwanegol sydd wedi cronni dros yr ŵyl.

Gall coed Nadolig go iawn gael eu hailgylchu yn y Canolfannau Ailgylchu Cymunedol yn Llandudwg, Brynmenyn a Maesteg. Gallant hefyd fynd i'r depo yn Nhredŵr ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr o 6 Ionawr ymlaen.

Your Christmas refuse and recycling collections

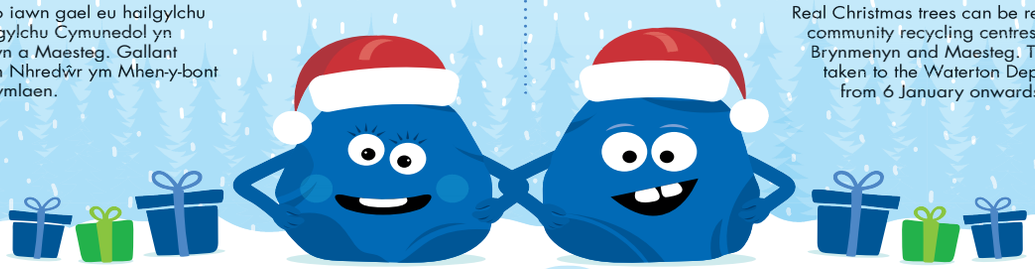
There **WILL** be collections on Christmas Eve but there **WON'T** be any collections on Christmas Day or Boxing Day so everything will be picked up two days later than normal for the rest of the week up until Sunday 29 December.

Please recycle as much as possible so that only your left over Bits and Bobs end up in the bin.

Christmas cards and all food waste including your turkey carcass can be recycled, but wrapping paper cannot.

While residents are usually restricted to filling two bin bags each fortnight, each home will be permitted to put out one extra bin bag for their first refuse collection after Christmas Day to help accommodate all of the additional rubbish accumulated over the festive season.

Real Christmas trees can be recycled at the community recycling centres in Tythegston, Brynmenyn and Maesteg. They can also be taken to the Waterton Depot in Bridgend from 6 January onwards.



www.recycleforbridgend.wales

Mae Pen-y-bont yn ailgylchu. Mae'n ail natur i ni.
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KIER

Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn ailgylchu
Bridgend recycles

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr
BRIDGEND County Borough Council

Christmas lights are shining in Glynogwr

THE lights shone brightly over the village of Glynogwr when the Christmas lights were switched on, much to the pleasure of the residents.

It had taken a number of years for it to happen and through the persistent efforts of community councillor Andy McKay, supported by David Williams, as well as Mrs Anne Wilkes, Clerk to the council and David Edwards, it was a successful evening.

Over a hundred people attended the event, including young children as well as senior citizens. David Edwards gave a few words of welcome to everyone and introduced the celebrity who had agreed to carry out the switching on ceremony.

Claire Hignett who plays Cheryle in the popular TV series Stella had very kindly offered her services for the event and was a delightful lady.

Father Julian Jenkins, Vicar of St Tyfodwg's Church, said a prayer relating to the 'Light' after which the switching on took place to loud applause, which was then followed by the singing of Christmas carols.

The evening concluded with refreshments in the church. This was a community event to which everyone contributed, and it allowed the village to come together to enjoy a happy occasion.

GM

School retains top eco award

ABOVE: Children from the Oldcastle Children's Voice Council celebrating the news with their new plastic cups.

PUPILS at Oldcastle Primary School are delighted to have retained the Eco-Schools Platinum award again this year.

Eco-Schools is a global programme designed to inspire young people to make a positive environmental change.

Oldcastle Primary School operates a whole-school approach to the environment with the Children's Voice Council tasked with undertaking an environmental review and developing an action plan for the Eco-Schools application.

The school's focus on the reduction of single use plastic through the introduction of a milk machine was commended.

Children in Foundation Phase receive their daily measured milk in a re-useable plastic cup instead of the single use small plastic bottles.

The school are also committed to implementing cleaner power and have installed solar panels on their canteen building.

The school is keen to extend the use of solar panels in additional areas.

Schools that achieve the Eco-Schools Green Flag award four times will receive the Platinum award status demonstrating the long term commitment to environmental education, student involvement and sustainability.

Platinum schools are ranked amongst the best in the world in the Eco-Schools programme.

Community news from Llangan and Treoes with Nancy Davidge

Llangan School

ON Monday, December 16, the children in reception year-1 and year-2 visited St Fagan's Museum for the day to take part in a workshop.

Today (Thursday) Friends of Llangan Primary have organised a visit from Santa in the morning, followed by a Christmas dinner and Christmas activities and stories.

The school breaks up on Friday, December 20.

Christmas morning service

A Service will take place at St Mary Hill Church at 11.15am on Christmas morning.

A warm welcome is offered to all.

Young at Heart Club

MEMBERS of the Treoes-based Young at Heart Club visited a Bridgend hotel for their Christmas lunch last week.

Meetings of the club will resume in the first week in January.

A Christmas message

To all the readers of my itsy bits news, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Send us your stories, letters, photos and sports reports

Views sought on the future of post-16 education

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) is asking local residents what they think about proposals that will change how post-16 education is provided in future.

Phase four of the authority's ongoing post-16 educational review outlines a number of potential options which range from closing and merging some sixth forms to creating new ones in locations such as Bridgend town centre and the Pencoed campus of Bridgend College.

With many sixth forms in the county borough proving to be too small to remain financially viable resulting in a limited range of available subjects, the latest proposals take into account feedback from previous stages of the review.

The council wants to change this by creating centres with a minimum capacity of 250 students which will ensure there are enough learners to provide a broad curriculum while enabling minority subjects such as modern languages to be protected and using resources more efficiently.

Three options have been developed:

• Mixing school sixth forms with some mergers to create new local authority-maintained sixth form centres, including a new post-16 centre of excellence.

• Mixing sixth forms with some mergers to create new further-education-college governed sixth form centres, including a new-build college in the town centre.

• Retaining sixth forms at all schools with further development to improve this option's delivery, such as greater use of online learning.

The proposals include separate arrangements for Welsh-medium and faith education.

Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration, said: "Sixth forms at both Porthcawl Comprehensive and Bryntirion Comprehensive are expected to reach the 250 student benchmark over the next 10 years, but all other school sixth forms are well below this figure.

"This situation is limiting resources and the availability of some subjects, meaning that in certain cases students are having to travel between different schools in order to study their preferred options. BCBC has a proud track record of investing in local education, and we want all students to have the very best opportunities.

"Given the financial pressures faced by the local authority, secondary schools and Bridgend College, we need to work in close partnership to ensure that our resources are used as effectively as possible.

"The proposals for how we can do this are bold and creative, and I hope that people will make full use of this opportunity to have their say and help shape our plans for how post-16 education is delivered in future."

A series of consultation workshops will take place in the New Year before the consultation closes on February 21, 2020.

For more information on how you can take part, visit the consultation page at www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation, call 01656 643664 or email consultation@bridgend.gov.uk.

Town clerk on the move after a decade in post

PORTHCAWL Town Council's clerk is leaving the role after 10 years.

Over the last decade, Alison Thomas has seen the town council take on a significant expansion of its duties as the local authority continues to make ongoing cuts to services.

Among other areas, the town council has taken on the Grade II listed public toilets in John Street and is building a new set of public toilets at Griffin Park.

It has also just signed a one-year licence for the Griffin Park health and wellbeing centre.

The Mayor of Porthcawl, Cllr Graham Walter, said: "We are really sorry to see Alison go – she's been absolutely outstanding for us.

"She's professional, she's shown enormous resilience when we've had difficulties, and she deals with councillors tactfully.

"She's completely apolitical as you would expect.

"As local authorities finances have got more and more challenging our town council has needed to move from being a relatively small town council, with fairly limited aspirations, into something that has had to grow quite significantly in terms of its financial responsibility and staffing responsibility."

Over the last decade Ms Thomas, who is also the responsible financial officer for the town council, has worked under three different councils, having had two elections since being in post.

She said: "Getting used to the way a new council works is sometimes quite a challenge.

"I did my best to remain apolitical and really get the most of that town council.

"It wasn't a bad challenge – it was something I enjoyed doing."

Her highlights have involved working with local organisations and seeing the benefit the town council was able to offer them.

She said: "The town council was able to help with funding the refurbishment of the Y Centre and Porthcawl Museum and it has been great seeing those organisations develop.

"Being a part of that and working with all the local organisations who want the best for Porthcawl has been a highlight for me."

Ms Thomas is taking on a new role as the clerk at Glynneath Town Council.

Liz Bradfield
Local democracy reporter

BAVO celebrates 21 years of making a difference

BRIDGEND Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO), recently celebrated their past year's achievements at their 21st AGM at the Heronstone Hotel, Bridgend.

As the umbrella organisation to develop and promote voluntary and community groups throughout Bridgend County Borough, BAVO has delivered a wide range of support services to community groups and organisations.

Heidi Bennett of BAVO said: "As we celebrate 21 years of making a difference in Bridgend County Borough, we are proud of our achievements and those of our voluntary and community sector. We have all had to be responsive to the changing times and despite the economic climate, we are we are delivering services which make a difference to our communities."

2018 – 19 was another successful and busy year for BAVO, supporting a robust, influential and sustainable Third Sector in BCB.

They enabled 291 people to gain new skills through their training programmes, placed 204 volunteers with local organisations and helped groups get £1.2M worth of funding for local causes.

Guest speaker Bridgend AM Carwyn Jones said: "It was a great pleasure to attend BAVO's AGM and to have the opportunity to say thank you to the team for all that they do to. For many voluntary organisations, BAVO is the first port of call. So much of the work that the Third Sector organisations do cannot be replicated by government as they are rooted in their communities.

"We want to see a confident and strong Third Sector: BAVO ensures that Third Sector voices are heard by me, by Welsh Government and partners to ensure we have vibrant and better communities."

If you are a voluntary or community group in Bridgend County Borough, membership of BAVO is free of charge. BAVO can provide guidance, practical assistance and information to develop skills, services and activities. For further details call BAVO on 01656 810400.

Overhaul of mobile library service revealed

THE mobile library service across the county borough of Bridgend is to be overhauled so that more vulnerable, isolated and housebound people can benefit from books brought directly to their door.

From December 16, the existing mobile and Booklink vehicles will come off the road to prepare the routes. A new Books on Wheels service, with additional stops to people confined to their homes, will be launched from Monday, January 6.

Richard Hughes of Awen Cultural Trust, which manages the library service on behalf of Bridgend County Borough Council, said: "The Booklink service for the housebound is greatly valued by our communities, with our friendly and helpful staff visiting hundreds of homes a month to deliver books, audiobooks and DVDs. But we want to offer this service to even more people who would otherwise face difficulty accessing library services.

"A significant number of our mobile library users visit their branch libraries as well, so it makes operational sense to remove our ageing van from the road and invest in a service which will reach those who may have independence and mobility issues and often feel isolated.

"We are delighted to be working in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council to develop a flexible approach to the delivery of mobile library services, which maintains support for vulnerable groups but also expands the reach of the service by working with health visitors and young families, schools, care homes, day centres, childcare settings and hospitals."

Staff from Awen Libraries are engaging with the mobile library users affected by these changes: those who can will be encouraged to visit their local branch, while those who need to have books brought to them will be able to access the Books on Wheels service.

The Books on Wheels vehicle will continue to carry a deliver a stock of popular authors and also large print books for visually impaired people. Other books can be requested for delivery as part of the five-week cycle.

Richard Hughes added: "We are grateful to those who have supported the mobile library service and will continue to monitor the impact of these changes on our users. We are confident that by adapting and enhancing the way we deliver this service to meet the needs of an ageing population, we will help safeguard this provision for the future."

Cllr Dhanisha Patel, Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Future Generations, said: "This is excellent news for people who may be unable to visit their local library. As well as being highly popular, I am sure that the Books on Wheels service will help people to avoid being socially excluded."

AM pledges support for local shops

THE Association of Convenience Stores recently launched their '2020 Welsh Local Shop Report' at the National Assembly for Wales, highlighting the important role convenience stores play in the Welsh economy and our communities.

Findings from the report revealed that 62% of local shops in Wales operate in more rural locations like those in the valleys of Ogmore, providing essential services to their local communities which customers may otherwise not have access to; these include bill payment services (79%), cash machines (68%) and post offices (25%).

Ogmore AM Huw Irranca-Davies attended the launch and said: "Ogmore's convenience stores play a key role in the lives of local residents, and many have become social hubs helping to combat loneliness and social isolation. They also provide flexible jobs and engage in local initiatives.

"It's good to see so many successful small and medium sized businesses right across Ogmore, and I was delighted to help promote them throughout the month of November in the run up to this year's Small Business Saturday on December 7.

"With various daily postings on social media, it is clear we have many excellent wide ranging small business – many of which include convenience stores. It is essential that we encourage people to shop local and make full use of these wonderful little stores that are found on our local high streets. Consider them for your Christmas shopping."

ACS chief executive James Lowman said: "Convenience stores play a vital role in countless communities across Wales and we are pleased to welcome the support of Huw Irranca-Davies AM. Local shops operate at the heart of the communities that they serve, and this is keenly felt in Wales.

"Retailers continue to invest in their stores to provide essential products and services to their customers, but there are a number of challenges that they face on a daily basis. We look forward to working with Huw Irranca-Davies AM in the future on these issues and the other challenges that local shops face."

The 'Hen Shed' is on a mission

YOU may have heard of the Men's Shed but did you know there is now an active Hen Shed in Maesteg – and no, it's nothing to do with chickens!

Set up only a few weeks ago by mum Cindy Charlotte Pritchard, these girls mean business.

The purpose of the 'Shed' group is to support people who need help for a variety of

reasons.

This is not only limited to their membership but they offer support to people in the community, and during this cold time of the year, Cindy felt it was important to support the homeless.

So being such a young group the Maesteg Hen Shed took up the challenge and have been inundated with support from the people of Maesteg – and several supporting charities such as Maws, Tenovus, Credit Union, and Anturio.

People have also been buying items that they felt the homeless would need.

Thanks to Maesteg Town Council, they meet in a room at the council offices every Wednesday from 9.30am to 12.30pm and have been able to collect and pack their gifts in the council office.

Soon, the ladies will be taking their many black bags to Bridgend where they will be given to the homeless.

Any ladies who feel they would like to find out more about this simple 'shed' idea, join in the fun over tea and cakes and see what they are planning for 2020 should pop into the council offices any Wednesday between 9.30am and 12.30pm and ask for Cindy.

You will be made to feel very welcome

Report and photo by Phil Davies

Secret chats, lies and codewords: How Gavin & Stacey cast kept show's return under-wraps

A MILITARY style operation was launched by the cast of Gavin & Stacey to make sure nobody found out details of the upcoming Christmas special.

Some went to great lengths to ensure the big reunion project was kept under-wraps, with secret group chats set up and a few fibs told.

Ruth Jones, who writes and stars in the show, even used her niece - who also didn't know a thing about the festive instalment - as a decoy on a reconnaissance trip to Barry.

She revealed she took the nine-year-old to the seaside resort to use as a cover story in case people spotted her and started getting suspicious.

Jones was actually in Barry to find out if the owner of the house used by Gwen in the show would be willing to let the cameras back in once again.

She admitted she felt "ashamed" about using her niece, but insisted it was an essential move.

The former Porthcawl Comprehensive student said: "When I have been back to Barry, sometimes there are people who are taking photos of the outside of the house and, if they see me, they sometimes want to take photos.

"If they see me on my own, it might start suspicions going. So I took her and had some photos taken outside so I could just say I am showing my niece."

And that's not all. Jones then 'blatantly lied' to Matt Lucas on BBC Radio 2 about the show returning - some 24 hours before the reunion was announced.

She explained: "I went onto the Radio 2 breakfast show the day before it was announced and I was going on to publicise my book, so I knew that the following day we were going to be announcing it, and I was sat there with Matt Lucas who was taking the show that day.

"And he said to me the question that I get asked all the time - 'Is there going to be more Gavin & Stacey?', and I went, 'Oh it's really difficult because James is in America."

"He said 'yeah, but is there going to be more?' And I said 'Oh it is so lovely that people love the show so much'."

Jones added: "It was awful. I was like a politician on Politics Live not answering the question. The next day I had to email Matt and say 'I am so sorry for blatantly lying to you."

A codename for the Christmas special was created and a group chat for the cast was set up - both inspired by a misunderstanding between Rob Brydon, who plays uncle Bryn, and Alison Steadman, who plays Gavin's mum Pam.

Brydon explained: "We were at the BAFTAs, and I was walking to my seat and I saw Alison and I said 'hello' and she said 'I am nervous about G&S.

"And I thought Gilbert and Sullivan. I thought she was there nominated for a performance in a thing about Gilbert and Sullivan. And I might have even said to her, 'but you were fantastic in it."

He added: "And then my wife Claire and I went and sat down and I turned around and went 'Ohhh!'

Brydon's mistake quickly caught on with other members of the cast.

Jones told a group of journalists at the christmas special's official press launch in London: "We did set up a WhatsApp group and we called it Gilbert and Sullivan."

Steadman added: "On my email I was so scared in case anyone saw it. So I called it Gilbert and Sullivan. I said I had been asked to do Gilbert and Sullivan again."

Former EastEnders actor Larry Lamb, who plays Steadman's on-screen husband Mick, said: "The hard bit is not telling anyone about it. So I had about three months of that, not only just the usual 'I don't know', but actually lying now."

Gavin & Stacey airs on Christmas Day at 8.30pm on BBC1.

By Sam Hall

ABOVE: A still from the upcoming Christmas special showing the characters getting into the festive spirit.

Mathew Horne, who plays Gavin, with James Corden, also known as Smithy.

ABOVE: Ruth Jones' character Nessa and Uncle Bryn, played by Rob Brydon, belting out a tune or two in the Christmas special.

ABOVE: Larry Lamb, who plays Mick in the sitcom, with Alison Steadman, who plays his on-screen wife Pam.

ABOVE: Joanna Page (Stacey) and Mathew Horne.

Porthcawl swim

Continued from page one

Lucy Jones, the secretary of the swim committee, told The GEM: "The arrangements on the morning will follow last year's in that as swimmers register they will receive their commemorative mug before the Swim. Therefore, whether they have registered on line or on the morning they must come to the registration desk from 10:30 onwards.

"Swimmers will leave the Hi Tide Inn and gather at the top of the beach for the start at 11.45am. We are planning to have the 'start arch' (weather permitting) erected on the beach so that every swimmer will file through in a similar way to last year. Porthcawl Coastguard will signal the start and the swimmers will then make their way down the beach through the spectators. The tide will be right out on the morning so the run down to the water will be further than last year.

"Some friends of the swim travel home for Christmas, so we get swimmers and spectators from all over the UK and abroad too. We know this year there will be swimmers joining us from Australia and Dubai besides those who come from the South Wales area, all to enjoy a festive morning at Sandy Bay Porthcawl.

"Running up to Christmas our small committee have to work tirelessly to raise enough money to fund the cost of the Swim, the souvenir programmes and the much sought after Swim mugs. The main aim of the 'Swim ' is to raise as much money as possible for our chosen charities, therefore we are relying on 'you' to help, either by swimming and getting sponsorship to support us, or if you are a spectator by giving generously to our bucket collection.

"The more money we collect, the more we can give away. We are also appealing for the volunteers to support us as collectors and marshals, details of how to register an interest can be found on our website *www.christmasswim.org* or our Facebook page Porthcawl Christmas Morning Swim.

Chairman, Dave King, said, 'This year our headline charity is Alzheimer's Society Cymru. As in previous years we will also support other local organisations.

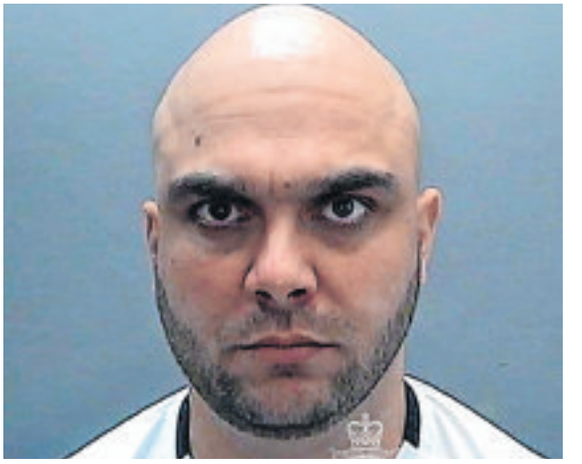
"A total of £15,760 was donated after the swim last year, so with your help maybe we can exceed this amount. Our promise is to give every penny that is collected on Christmas morning via the bucket collection and through swimmers' sponsorship to our chosen beneficiaries. We also have the opportunity to link in with Alzheimer's Society Cymru's Just Giving page so you can set up your sponsorship page or donate to friends online too.

"We thank all those individuals and businesses who help us in so many ways to be able to put the 'Swim' on. We invite you to join in the fun either as a swimmer or spectator, come and soak up the festive family atmosphere and please support your organisers. We are overwhelmed in the way the event has been so well supported in previous years. We continue to have record swimmers, spectators and collections. Help us to make the 55th event equally successful.

"On an official note, we need to point out that the Christmas Morning Swim Committee hold the license to collect money on Christmas Day, therefore any collecting of money at the event, other than by our official collectors, is prohibited."

Final nail in the coffin for drugs gang

ABOVE: Kevin Skinner.
Photo supplied by South Wales Police.



ABOVE: Yousef Woolcock.
Photo supplied by South Wales Police.

TWO of the last known members of a drugs gang have been jailed following a year-long investigation by police.

Gang leader Yousef Woolcock, whose group sold crack cocaine and heroin across Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil, was put behind bars for 17-and-a-half years on December 11.

The 36-year-old man, from Pendine Close in Barry, was sentenced at Cardiff Crown Court alongside Kevin Skinner, descried as one of the gang's runners.

Skinner was jailed for five-and-a-half years.

They are the last known members of the Barry-based drugs gang to be jailed - one by one, they have been sentenced over the past 12 months following a protracted police investigation.

Operation Blue Pearl was launched after police received information that drugs were being transported from Barry to the south wales valleys, via Bridgend and Gilfach Goch.

A pre-planned vehicle stop in August, 2018, gave officers their significant breakthrough when during the arrest of Saed Saeed and Fouad Cilmi, as they travelled through Beddau with heroin and crack cocaine, officers seized a mobile phone which was being used by the gang to orchestrate drug deals.

Saeed and Cilmi were both jailed in December, 2018.

The drugs operation slowly unravelled as police managed to piece together the gang's activities using digital forensic techniques including phone data and CCTV.

In January, 2019, Dean Jenkins was arrested at his home in Tonyrefail and a search of his home led to the seizure of £30,000 worth of cocaine.

His house was being used as stash house where cocaine was being 'washed' and turned it into the highly addictive crack cocaine.

Jenkins was jailed in April, 2019, for four-and-a-half-years.

Leigh Welch and Damien Robson were both caught dealing heroin in Rhydyfelin in February, 2019.

Welch, of Elmwood Court, Roath, Cardiff, was jailed for five years and seven months in June, 2019, and Damien Robson was recently jailed for three- and-a-half-years.

Yousef Woolcock was arrested five months later, in July, 2019, after extensive CCTV inquiries captured him, topping up a known drugs phone in a Barry shop.

Thousands of pounds worth of heroin was seized when police raided his home in Fordd Penrhyn. Kevin Skinner was also arrested the same day.

During the whole operation which lasted for 12 months, £64,000 worth of class A drugs, over £12,000 in cash, and weapons including knives, tasers, and hammers were seized by officers.

Detective Sergeant Tim Jones, said: "Today we jailed the remaining two members of the Barry Line drugs gang which we had been monitoring since August 2018.

"Yousef Woolcock headed-up a significant drugs supply operation and sold many thousands of pounds worth of class A drugs – a minimum of 18 kilogrammes of heroin.

"Everybody can be sure of the damage that his drugs have caused members of the community, their families and loved ones. The weapons seized during this whole operation is also clear evidence that his activities come hand in hand with violence.

He added: "In dismantling this operation we have taken many thousands of pounds worth of drugs off the streets, but other dealers will be waiting to move in. Only with the communities help and support can we tackle drug dealing and prevent the violence that comes with it."

Anybody who suspects drug dealing can contact South Wales Police via 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Residents set to fork out more than £5m on unwanted presents this Christmas

IT'S the season of goodwill and giving - but new research shows residents in Bridgend will waste up to £5.4m on Christmas gifts they suspect their loved ones won't event like.

The shocking statistics came to light as part of research recently carried out by Macmillan Cancer Support.

As part of the work, which revealed residents in Bridgend would be forking out more than £5m, British adults were asked to estimate how much they spent on Christmas gifts that people might not like.

The poll found many were worried that they'd appear 'stingy' if they didn't splash the cash with 26 per cent of participants admitting they often receive gifts that they will never use.

Almost a quarter of those surveyed admitted they'd prefer to have a donation made to their favourite charity rather than receive a gift.

Nicola Newhams, Regional Fundraising Manager, said: "People work very hard for their money, so no one wants to see it going to waste. It's heart-warming the research shows many people would prefer to have a donation made to charity than receive a gift. Christmas can be a particularly difficult time of year for people living with cancer and their loved ones, and every donation Macmillan Cancer Support receives means we can continue to be there to support the three million people currently affected by cancer in the UK, enabling them to live life as fully as they can. "If just 10 people donated £45 – less than the amount every person on average reckons they spend on unappreciated Christmas presents – we could support our frontline staff to run our Macmillan Support Line phone service for an hour. And if you gave one donation of around £30, this could pay for one Macmillan nurse for an hour, helping people living with cancer and their families receive essential medical, practical and emotional support. If you're thinking of swapping a traditional gift for a charity gift this year, Macmillan's virtual gifts are a great way to make a donation in someone's name."

A chance to say 'thank you' to someone special

THE search is on for the unsung heroes of Bridgend county borough's communities.

The 2020 'Inspire for Life' awards, organised by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) celebrate people, groups and organisations that have gone the extra mile to improve the health and wellbeing of local people.

A BCBC spokewoman said: "We are inviting nominations from individuals, groups, partnerships, projects or businesses that you believe have made a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of others.

"With five categories to apply for, there's plenty of opportunity for deserving people and organisations to receive the recognition they deserve."

The categories include:

- Made a difference award.
- Above and beyond award.
- The future is bright award.
- The power of one award.
- Innovation award.

Cllr Dhanisha Patel, the BCBC cabinet member for wellbeing and future generations, said: "We're really thankful to the people and organisations that act selflessly for the good of their communities.

"We're lucky to have so many inspirational people who make a positive contribution, whether by encouraging people in their area to be more active, reaching out to our vulnerable residents or striving to make their communities better places to live.

"If you know an individual or organisation you think deserves recognition for all their hard work, I'd urge you to nominate them."

To nominate a local hero in the Inspired for Life Awards,visit: *www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/leisure-culture-and-libraries/inspire-for-life-awards-2020*

Applications for the awards close at 5pm on Wednesday, January 15, 2020.

Charity coffee in Cowbridge

'Barnardo's Cowbridge Group recently held a successful coffee morning to raise funds. It raised £1,400 for Barnardo's Cymru, who provide services working with vulnerable children, young people and families . (Photo by Mike Wilcock)

Llantwit Major St John Ambulance group celebrates after a busy year

The Llantwit Major St John Ambulance group recently held their Christmas celebration.

Local photographer Andy Wicks (Tel 07855 374478) dropped in to take this image.

Author's new book features his home town

A Llantwit Major man has written his first book, set in his home town and featuring a fictional foray into Europe by his local football club.

Ben Dudley was brought up in Llantwit and his parents still live in the town, although Ben now lives in Amsterdam.

Ben told The GEM: "It's called *That's Not Llandudno*, and tells the story of our local football team (Llantwit Major AFC) going on a historic run in the Europa League, after accidentally being entered in place of Llandudno FC.

"My home town will always have a huge place in my heart, and I was delighted to be able to write what I believe is the very first fiction novel to be based in the town, certainly the first to feature our football team!

"It's a comedy story, suited for teenagers and up, available to buy from *thatsnotllandudno.com* (or in person from my parents' home in Wine Street) and costs £8.99."

Celebrating a very Victorian at Christmas Porthcawl Museum

ON Saturday, December 14, Porthcawl Museum held a successful Victorian Christmas event with home made seasonal treats on offer.

Museum volunteers added to the experience in Victorian costume, from Policemen to serving maids.

Carol singing was ably performed by Ffion Margetson who was accompanied by museum volunteer Judith Ann Shaw on the museum's pianola.

The museum will close on December 21 for maintenance and preparation of new exhibitions and reopen on February 15.

However, the shop and office will remain open on Saturday mornings during the closed period.

The volunteers and committee of the museum would like to take this opportunity to wish all its members and supporters a Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Report and photos by David Swidenbank.

RIGHT: From Margetson sang carols, accompanied Judith Ann Shaw

Dog of the Week

GOLDEN oldie Juno is an 11-year-old Labrador cross Border Collie and is Bridgend Dogs Trust's 'Dog of the Week'.

She can be shy initially when it comes to meeting new people. However, once she finds her confidence she is very affectionate. She is sociable with other dogs and could live with another dog in her new home, although new owners will need to continue her training when passing dogs on the lead.

Angela Wetherall, manager at Dogs Trust Bridgend, said: "Juno is a real sweetheart and is looking for a quiet home with few visitors. She is housetrained and can be left for a few hours and can live with children 14 years old and above.

"Juno loves exploring on her walks and playing with toys. She is a real sweetie who will make a great companion."

For more information on Juno, please visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Bridgend, CF31 4NG; or give us call on 01656 725219. You can also visit our website at www.dogstrust.org.uk.

South Wales Police call on public to sign up for counter-terroism course

AN award-winning counter terrorism training course is being made available to the public for the first time and South Wales Police want residents to sign up and help protect the UK.

Devised by counter terrorism officers and security experts, the ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) Awareness eLearning package was previously only available to staff working in crowded places like shopping centres and entertainment venues.

Now Counter Terrorism Policing has decided to open up the training to anyone who wants to become a CT Citizen, so they can learn how to spot the signs of suspicious behaviour and understand what to do in the event of a major incident.

The programme was originally devised in partnership with Marks and Spencer - and participants needed to be signed up by their employers.

The online learning is available free of charge to anyone who wants to take part.

The decision to offer the training to the public was not made in response to the recent attack in London.

However, the tragic events which took place recently, when two people lost their lives to terrorism, were a stark reminder of the ongoing threat and the need for vigilance.

"ACT Awareness eLearning is especially useful for anyone working in or regularly visiting crowded places," says Detective Superintendent Noel Harris, head of the Wales Extremism and Counter Terrorism Unit (WECTU).

"We developed each stage alongside industry experts and to date over one and a half million modules have been completed. The course has been so popular, with nine out of 10 users saying they would recommend it, we want to open it up to as many people as possible.

"The threat level remains at Substantial – meaning an attack is likely - so giving everyone the chance to be extra eyes and ears for police and local security teams help to keep all communities across south Wales force area safe. The festive period is obviously a very busy one, so this is a good time to join up and become a CT Citizen."

ACT Awareness is made up of seven modules that take a few minutes each to complete.

Participantscan pause and re-join at any time.

In total it takes just 45 minutes – so less than an hour of your time could help to prevent an attack or help save lives if one was to happen.

Crackdown on drug and drink drivers

POLICE are launching a campaign aimed at clamping down on drug and drink drivers over the festive period.

South Wales Police's initiative, launched on its social media platforms on December 11, shows footage of real incidents of driving under the influence with key words highlighting the impact it can have.

Last year more than 3,500 drink drive tests were carried out across the force area resulting in 179 arrests.

More than 140 drug wipes were carried out, leading to 65 arrests.

Police intelligence suggests that drivers aged between 17-25 are involved in a disproportionate number of drink and drug drive offences.

Officers will be carrying out targeted operational activity from December 18 until January 1, providing an increased police presence throughout south Wales.

Assistant Chief Constable Andy Valentine said: "Drink or drug driving is completely unacceptable at any time, and catching motorists who are prepared to take such a risk continues to be a priority for us."

"In recent years the number of drivers choosing to use illegal substances and drive has been increasing. With new technology available, we are able to detect drivers driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs far easier than ever before. "The message is clear - don't drink or drug drive. If someone decides to drive while under the influence of drink or drugs, they should expect to be caught."

Anyone who suspects someone is driving under the influence of drugs or drink should call police immediately on 101, or 999 if they are posing imminent danger.

Alternatively call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Aston Martin apprentices meet ministers at official opening

Jane Hutt AM with Aston Martin apprentices, Bryan Godsell of Unite and Hazel Martin, HR Director.

A COMMITMENT to recruiting apprentices was a key point in CEO Dr Andy Palmer's address at the official opening of the Aston Martin facility in St Athan recently.

He announced that 600 jobs will be created next year and 750 at peak production to manufacture the new SUV DBX and electric cars in the future.

Vale AM Jane Hutt joined First Minister Mark Drakeford AM and Bryan Godsell of Unite the Union to meet apprentices drawn from Cowbridge, Bridgend, Swansea and Cardiff.

Jane Hutt said: "It was great to meet the apprentices from local schools and to view the new cars with 'Hand built in Wales' inscribed on each car 80% of which will be exported"

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Sports travel business takes on a new challenge

Jim Strachan (back row right) and Deb Bowen Rees (back row second right) are joined by members of the WNO just before they left for Morocco.

A COWBRIDGE-BASED travel agent that specialises in sports travel recently took on an task – transporting the Welsh National Opera (WNO) to a concert in North Africa.

Earlier this month, The WNO orchestra jetted off from Cardiff Airport to Rabat, Morocco, on a private charter organised by Strachan Travel.

Co-ordinating the arrangements of 92 passengers and 32 musical instruments was handled by Jim Strachan, the director of Strachan Travel, who has worked in the travel industry for 60 years. The group were welcomed at the airport by Deborah Bowen Rees, the CEO of Cardiff Airport.

The Welsh National Opera Orchestra were travelling to Rabat for a performance at the Mohammed V National Theatre on December 5, 2019. The concert marked the company's first appearance in Morocco and in Africa as a whole.

Peter Harrap, orchestra and chorus director at WNO, said: "We were absolutely delighted that Welsh National Opera were able to visit Morocco and Africa for the first time."

The concert was part of the strategic partnership between the UK and Morocco. The co-operation aims to heighten cultural exchange between the two nations in addition to strengthening political and economic ties.

While in Rabat on December 5, members of the orchestra visited a Moroccan public primary school to give music lessons, and the orchestra invited the schoolchildren to attend their concert rehearsal.

A WNO spokesperson said: "This initiative was part of WNO's commitment to make art accessible to all."

Remembering loved ones with lights ceremony

SUPPORTERS of Marie Curie's Cardiff and the Vale Hospice have come together to remember their loved ones at a candlelit ceremony in Penarth this Christmas.

The charity's Lights to Remember event saw family and friends of former patients come together to celebrate the lives of loved ones they've lost at a service held at the Penarth Pier Pavilion.

All attendees were invited to decorate the Christmas tree with their message of remembrance to a loved one with the service led by the hospice's Spiritual Care Coordinator, Claire Wretham.

A candle-lit walk from the hospice to the Pier also took place ahead of the evening service.

Howell's School choir performed a medley of Christmas songs during the afternoon service, while the Salvation Army band and the Gabalfa Community Choir provided entertainment for the evening service.

Hannah Leckie, Community Fundraiser at Marie Curie said: "Our Lights to Remember ceremony is an opportunity to remember someone special to you but also celebrate the impact they've had on your life. It was lovely to see so many people of all ages come together at a special time of year for a moment of reflection."

More than £3,500 was raised on the evening, with all donations going towards Marie Curie's services in Wales which provide care and support to people living with terminal illness.

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Lovell strikes gold at Careers Wales Valued Partner Awards

LEFT: Jacob Scott, assistant site manager at Cot Farm, Alex Smith, Land & Partnerships graduate, Nicola Murray, project skills coordinator, Daxa Patel, HR & training advisor and Victoria Burston-Yates, Careers Wales adviser.

RIGHT: Nicola Murray with her accolades.

PARTNERSHIP developer Lovell has been awarded gold in Careers Wales' recent Valued Partner Awards for its successful work in helping students prepare for their future careers.

More than 50 companies from across Wales attended the ceremony, which was hosted by BBC Radio Wales presenter Jason Mohammed. Nicola Murray, from Bridgend, who accepted the award, works as a project skills coordinator for the south Wales and south west region of Lovell, working to ensure that young people across Wales are aware of the huge number of opportunities within the construction industry.

Careers Wales aims to make links between education and employers by bringing schools and businesses together to inform, inspire and motivate young people about their future career opportunities.

Careers Wales nominated Nicola for a team building task that she regularly carries out with local schools, where pupils take part in building a four-foot squared wooden house.

She said: "I was so surprised when I found out that I had been nominated: I love the work that I do, so I was delighted to find out that it has such a positive effect on those I work with.

"I'd like to give my thanks to Yvonne Carroll and Victoria Burston-Yates who are two of the Careers Wales advisers that I work in partnership with, to identify the schools most likely to benefit from our collaboration in the Newport area.

"For such a long time, the construction industry has been perceived in schools as just a building site and of course this isn't the case; we work with schools to highlight the opportunities in the industry for young men and women from a variety of backgrounds and academic levels."

Nikki Lawrence of Careers Wales said: "The Valued Partner Award scheme is instrumental to the work Careers Wales does and we greatly appreciate the support we receive from each and every one of our Valued Partners. Ultimately, we'd like employers to feed into the national curriculum to ensure the skills students are developing will be useful to the evolving workplace.

"Without our Valued Partners, we wouldn't be able to reach as many students at such a granular level and for that we are very grateful."

This year, 17 companies picked up gold awards, 24 companies won silver and 14 companies took home a bronze.

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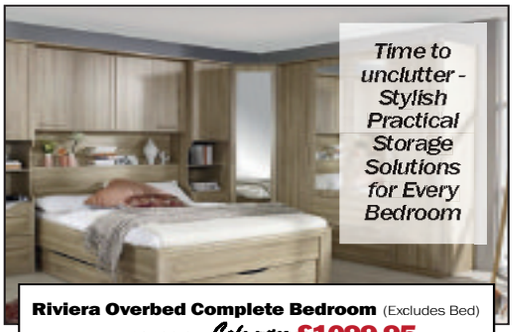

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Primary school students showcase Shakespeare

PUPILS from Dinas Powys Primary School's Shakespeare group recently gave a performance of *The Tempest*, as part of the Shakespeare for Schools Festival.

Under the close direction of year 3 teacher and accomplished director in her own right, Mrs Ryn Harries, the year 6 pupils performed the drama at the Riverfront Theatre in Newport.

The cast were subsequently invited to represent Wales, performing at the dinner at the Senate House, University of London.

Twenty students undertook a 'Flashmob Production', again to high acclaim.

Headteacher Julie Thompson praised their efforts: "We are extremely proud of those who took part in the shows. To have represented their country in the performing arts is a true honour, providing an experience of a lifetime."

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Lovelight concert shines a light on cancer support choir

THE Tenovus Cancer Care choir, Sing with Us, are celebrating after a fantastic festive concert held at All Saints' Church, Barry.

The special Lovelight concert, hosted by Jane Hutt AM was a chance to bring people together through song this Christmas.

It was a celebration to support everyone affected by cancer, and a chance to remember loved ones who have been lost to the disease.

The charity, which support thousands of families, has been holding these Lovelight concerts across Wales for the past decade but it was the first time there's been one in Barry for a while. They were delighted to bring the festivities back to the town and give Sing with Us Barry, a choir made up of people whose lives have been affected by cancer, a chance to perform with other talented artists.

They were joined on the night by Barry Community Choir, a fantastic young singer songwriter Patsy Hunt (who recently sang at GlastonBarry) and the energetic Treading the Boards children's performing arts group.

During the concert candles were lit as a chance to reflect upon those who have been affected by cancer, those who have survived it, those who are currently going through it and those who have lost their lives.

It was a moving tribute, and the Sing with Us Barry choir, conducted by Jo Wood, sang beautifully to mark the moment.

Carys Jenkins, fundraising manager for Tenovus Cancer Care said: "It was a truly wonderful night and we were so pleased to see the church absolutely full with people supporting our cause, and enjoying their chance to remember loved ones. Christmas can be such a difficult time for those who are grieving, so it's important for us to bring people together in celebration and support.

"We were so pleased to have raised over £1,000 this year and can't wait to bring the Lovelight concert back to Barry in December 2020!"

If you or someone you love has been affected by cancer, Tenovus Cancer Care can offer help and support. The Tenovus Cancer Care free Support Line is open 365 days a year from 8am-8pm. Call them on 0808 808 1010.

New scheme to protect abuse victims comes into force

A NEW, simplified way of working to protect adults and children at risk of neglect or abuse is now in effect in two parts of Wales.

Both Cardiff and the Vale and Gwent Regional Safeguarding Boards last week formally adopted the new Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

As a result, thousands of practitioners working with adults and children in these areas - such as teachers, nurses, social workers and volunteers – are now working to the same guidelines.

Lance Carver, Director of Social Services at the Vale Council and co-chair of the Cardiff and the Vale Regional Safeguarding Board said: "The adoption of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures by the first two regional safeguarding boards represents a significant milestone in improving how we all work together to better protect those at risk or harm or neglect.

"Anyone can view the procedures online or download the app. This is important, as it means that everybody working with adults or children will always be able to find out quickly and easily what to do if they suspect an individual is at risk. We believe this will have a significant impact on how and when potential incidents of harm or neglect are reported."

Wales became the first part of the UK to introduce a single set of digital safeguarding guidelines when the Wales Safeguarding Procedures were launched in November. The procedures set out for anyone working with children or adults what to do if they suspect an individual is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm.

Uniquely, there are no printed copies of the procedures. They are available to everyone online, either via the dedicated Wales Safeguarding Procedures website or a mobile app.

Claire Marchant, Cardiff Council Director of Social Services and co-chair of the Cardiff and the Vale Regional Safeguarding Board, said: "Safeguarding is everyone's business and it is vital that the guidance contained in the procedures is seen by all those working with adults and children, whatever job they are in. Both platforms are easy to navigate, so that the right information can be quickly found. This means that everyone has access to the same information, ensuring a consistent approach across all sectors and organisations. It is little things like this that will really transform how we work."

To ensure that roles and responsibilities are clear, 'pointers for practice' are featured throughout both the web and app versions of the procedures and draw on the latest research and practice developments.

The Wales Safeguarding Procedures app are available for download now via the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. They can also be viewed in English at www.safeguarding.wales and in Welsh at www.diogelu.cymru.

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will be taking a break for Christmas

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The site will be updated every day over the festive period

We would like to wish all our Readers and Advertisers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Award for tall ship charity that challenges young people

The award is presented by Jonathan Cheshire (chairman, Sail Training International) to trustees Vicky Williams and Andy Hall from Challenge Wales.

PENARTH-BASED charity Challenge Wales has scooped an international award of 'Sail Training Organisation of the Year' at an industry conference in Antwerp.

The Challenge Wales charity, which operates the sail training vessels 'Challenge Wales Tall Ship' and 'Adventure Wales' won the award due to the work it has done during 2019 with hundreds of disadvantaged young people, helping them to develop their employability skills.

The charity is only the third UK recipient of the Award since the awards started in 2007.

The predominantly volunteer-run charity provides social and personal development training for those aged 12–25 years and has worked with homeless, or at risk of homeless, young people as well as young carers, those in the care system, young people with learning difficulties, LGBTQ groups, college and school pupils and those who are financially disadvantaged through unemployment or lack of opportunities.

The charity has also developed Agored Cymru accredited learning, undertaken onboard, giving young people something tangible for their CV.

Paul Bishop, head of race directorate at Sail Training International said: "This has been a great year for Challenge Wales and they have been an inspiration to all of us involved in Sail Training.

"Challenge Wales engages in remarkable youth development, which demonstrates innovation, best practice and delivering excellence – which is why they are so deserving of the Sail Training Organisation of the Year Award."

A trustee of Challenge Wales, Vicky Williams said: "Winning this award, in our 10th year, is an amazing accolade to our volunteers, supporters and team.

"We've had some amazing results getting young people back into employment, volunteering or education and through independent evaluation our sail training programme has been evidenced to show that it has a positive impact on young people's mental health and wellbeing, as well as developing their life skills.

"Sail Training is a great leveller and challenges the individual."

Challenge Wales has an exciting sail training programme planned for 2020 that young people and groups can be part of, with bursary funding available to support many young people aged 12–25 years.

BBC scheme for budding directors gets underway

UP-AND-COMING directors are being given the opportunity to make their first longform documentary as the BBC Cymru Wales New Documentary Directors' Initiative is open for applications.

The scheme, now in its second year, offers four new directors a chance to work with leading documentary makers and develop their skills as they produce and direct their first longform film for broadcast on BBC One Wales and BBC iPlayer.

The successful scheme boasts a list of well-received previous titles, including Hell on Wheels, Toby Cameron's documentary following a roller derby team as they headed to the biggest sporting tournament of their lives. Hell on Wheels was also screened at the Wales International Documentary Festival. A series following the team's next sporting ventures has since been commissioned.

Another successful film, Bethan Evans' Desperate to Drive tells the story of a unique driving centre where higher risk drivers who have been stopped from driving through illness or accident have a chance to prove they're safe to get back behind the wheel. A man who recently lost his leg and a former lorry driver with dementia are among four people we follow.

Finally, Young Parents Hostel, directed by Jacqueline Lee, was filmed over nine months. It follows the lives of three young single parents who found themselves homeless and were thrown the lifeline of a place in a hostel where they all strive to become the best parents they can be as they wait for their first home.

Applicants for the next round of the initiative are invited to submit their ideas on the BBC's Careershub website. The four successful candidates will be invited to work with a production company to turn their ideas into a half-hour documentary.

BBC Head of Commissioning Nick Andrews said:

"This is a fantastic initiative that's developing fresh film making talent from Wales. The next generation of storytellers. Hell on Wheels, Desperate to Drive and Young Parents Hostel are amazing pieces of work.

"At goes without saying that BBC Wales is looking for interesting, original stories about Wales, to be told with passion, and we can't wait to receive this year's applications."

PM reveals new Secretary of State for Wales

LEFT: New Welsh Secretary Simon Hart.

RIGHT: Former Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns

PRIME Minister Boris Johnson has found a replacement for Vale MP Alun Cairns in his top government cabinet.

MR Cairns resigned as the Secretary of State for Wales as the recent election campaign amid a row over a former aide's role in sabotaging a rape trial.

And now Mr Johnson has filled Mr Cairns' old job with Simon Hart taking up the role as Welsh secretary.

The MP for Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire has previously served as a junior minister at the Cabinet Office.

Paul Davies AM, leader of the Conservatives in the Welsh Parliament, has welcomed the new appointment.

He said: "This is one of the key posts and I am delighted that Prime Minister Boris Johnson has made this appointment.

"Simon's extensive background in many aspects of rural affairs, and experience as an MP in a number of Parliamentary committees will stand him in good stead for the challenging work the Welsh Office will bring."

Mr Davies added: "His experience as an MP and close working with colleagues from council to Assembly to Parliament will ensure that Wales - now with 14 Conservative MPs - will have a strong voice and a passionate advocate to carry on speaking up for Wales in Westminster."

Local charity thanks supporters for help during 'these uncertain times'

CHARITIES are feeling the pinch – donations across the country are down and with uncertainty over funding to some third sector bodies, Age Connects is feeling upbeat from the support received at its recent fundraising Christmas dinner at the Copthorne Hotel in Cardiff.

CEO Jeff Hawkins said: "It can be a risky commitment for a small charity and a lot of work goes into securing event sponsors, quality auction prizes and of course attracting people to attend. However, I am pleased to say our corporate sponsors, volunteers, staff and their guests did us proud."

McClure Solicitors, who provide the Age Connects free Will-making service, and Bolt Removals were the sponsors. Age Connects Cardiff and the Vale has always been well and truly at the heart of the Cardiff and Vale local communities, supporting older people for over 45 years to reduce social isolation, loneliness and promote independence and wellbeing.

In these uncertain times, Age Connects has been reaching out to local businesses and the general public to urge them to keep the charitable support they have available where it can make an immediate difference.

Karen Steele, marketing and partnerships manager, said: "We are so grateful for the support shown to our local charity by supporters, staff and volunteers alike! We strive to ensure that every supporter we work with finds the partnership mutually rewarding. We are always open to forming new partnerships, so please do get in touch if you feel you or your organisation can help us."

For more information, go to *www.ageconnects-cardiff.org.uk* or telephone 02920 683 604.

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Season's Greetings

The ghosts of Christmas presents past

PREPARE for a seasonal saunter down memory lane. New research by musicMagpie has listed the holiday season's most popular toys for the last 50 years - and it's filled with absolute Christmas crackers.

The clearest trend is the rise of techie prezzies, and with it, skyrocketing prices. As recently as the 1990s, on average, the top five most popular gifts each year totalled a combined cost of £336 in today's money - a far cry from the £1,466 total for 2019.

From the 1970s to the turn of the millennium, these are our favourite Christmas toys that you (or your parents) definitely played with as a kid...

Space Hopper, 1971

Also known as a moon hopper, hoppity horse, skippyball and a great many other things, the humble space hopper sprang into the nation's living rooms with a satisfying 'boing' and more than a little collateral damage.

Ahead of the Mastermind memory game and the 99p Etch-A-Sketch in the festive stakes, the hopper found success in a less technical era, when personal stereos and electronic entertainment systems were still some years off.

It was a simpler time. A bouncier time.

Pet Rock, 1975

If you were to tell

today's youth that when you were a nipper, the Christmas craze was a cardboard box containing a pebble, they'd probably accuse you of being born in the Stone Age.

Nevertheless, the very literal 'pet rock' beat out a portable tape player, first-ever-successful-video-game Pong, and perennial stocking-stuffer Monopoly to take top spot in 1975. Each specimen was packaged with air holes, and came with a tongue-in-cheek instruction manual on rock welfare.

Creator Gary Dahl bought the rocks for a cent a piece from a Mexican beach, marketed them for £1.75 (nearly £15 adjusting for inflation), and promptly became a millionaire.

Hungry Hungry Hippos, 1978

Beautiful in its simplicity, Hungry Hungry Hippos was a back-to-basics, fun-for-all-the-family festive option, after more expensive gifts like the Atari games console and 8 track cassette player found success in preceding years.

Published by table-top giants Hasbro, the game debuted with a successful TV ad campaign featuring a line of cartoon hippos and a memorable jingle: "It's a race, it's a chase, hurry up and feed their face!"

Fun fact: The four original hippos were called Lizzie, Henry, Homer and Harry.

Rubik's Cube, 1980

Part of the furniture in the modern toy shop, it seems almost strange that there was a time before the Rubik's Cube, but these portable puzzles were invented by the Hungarian sculptor Erno Rubik in 1974.

Now thought to be the world's bestselling toy, the cube was initially a mechanical experiment, designed to retain structural integrity despite consisting entirely of moving parts. After a quick re-branding, the puzzle went the toy equivalent of viral, delighting and infuriating children and adults, communists and capitalists alike.

Today, the coloured cubes have embraced the modern era with the rise of 'speedcubing', in which players compete against opponents and against the clock. The current world record for a single 3 x 3 x 3 stands at 3.47 seconds, set by Chinese cuber Yusheng Du.

It still sounds like child's play compared to our favourite Rubik's record - fastest time to solve three Rubik's Cubes while juggling.

Optimus Prime, 1984

Two decades before Michael Bay's smash n' bash Transformers movies pushed Autobots and Decepticons back into the public consciousness, Optimus Prime was topping the Christmas charts with a successful Hasbro toy line and a brand new animated TV series.

The flagship Optimus figurine cost £16.87 (around £50 today) and could mechanically transform from truck to robot and back again. Now something of a collector's item, factory sealed 1984 models are selling on eBay for upward of $4,000.

PlayStation, 1995

The early-Nineties saw a mini-Renaissance for conventional toys - Barbie, Action Man, Play-Doh, Silly Putty and the Cabbage Patch Kids all managed to cut through the tide of tech - but in 1995 the Sony PlayStation ushered in a new era of video game dominance.

The system wrecked the festive market. A September release in North America yielded 800,000 sales by the year's end, while critics fell over themselves to praise the new emphasis on 3D. Nine years later, it became the first console ever to shift more than 100 million units.

By then the race between Sony, Nintendo, and Microsoft was dominating Christmas lists across the land: 2005, 2006 and 2007 were topped by the Xbox 360, the Nintendo Wii, and the PlayStation 3 respectively, until they were displaced in 2008 by, of all things, a High School Musical-themed dance mat.

Staff at The GEM would like to wish readers a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

The Llantwit Major Conservative Branch
would like to wish everyone
a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
We look forward to your support in 2020
If you are interested in joining our group or just supporting our aims please email
gordon.wilkie@gmail.com

Llantwit Major Town Council
Councillor Robert Gant
Town Mayor and Town Councillors
wish Llantwit Major residents and visitors
a Happy Christmas and a prosperous 2020

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www.actiondoors.com

Councillor Christine Cave

The Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan extends Seasons Greetings to all residents, and Volunteers living in the Vale of Glamorgan who provide great support to their communities.

May God's peace be in your hearts and homes this Christmas season and throughout the New year.

Cllr Christine Cave with Barry Rotary Elves

Cynghorydd Christine Cave

Mae Maer Bro Morgannwg yn ymestyn cyfarchion y tymor i'r holl drigolion a gwirfoddolwyr sy'n byw ym Mro Morgannwg
ac sy'n rhoi cymorth mawr i'w cymunedau.

Bydded i heddwch Duw fod yn eich calonnau a'ch cartrefi y tymor Nadolig hwn a thrwy gydol y flwyddyn newydd.

BARRY TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y BARRI

The Town Mayor of Barry, Councillor **MARGARET WILKINSON** and members of the Town Council

send Greetings to the Townspeople of Barry together with sincere wishes for Health, Happiness and Prosperity for Christmas

Maer y Dref y Barri, Y Cynghorydd MARGARET WILKINSON ac Aelodau'r Cyngor Tref y Barri

Anfon Cyfarchion I bobl y dref y Barri, ynghyd a dymuniadau diffuant am Iechyd, Hapusrwydd a Ffyniant ar gyfer y Nadolig

JANE HUTT AM

Labour Assembly Member for the Vale of Glamorgan Would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

janehutt.wales | jane.hutt@assembly.wales

01446 740981

Regular surgeries held throughout the Vale

JANE HUTT AC

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01446 740981

Cymorthfeydd rheolaidd a gynhelir ledled y Fro

Llantwit First Independent Councillors

Would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

If you're interested in joining our group, or just supporting our aims, call

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

from your local businesses The GEM

Why not place an advert in The GEM, during 2020 and see how advertising can work for you!

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Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
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Christmas & a Happy New Year
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ARB CYMRU COMPLETE TREE MANAGEMENT
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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
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and a Happy New Year to all our customers
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Merry Christmas & a
Happy New Year to all our customers
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would like to wish their customers a
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
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Best wishes to all our clients for a
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Happy New Year to all our customers
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Best Wishes to all. To advertise in classified, call Molly on 01446 774484
or email sales@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Farming matters

by FUW's Rachel Saunders

SPEEDING towards the end of the year and with the county office closing on Friday for the Christmas break (we're open again from January 2), I thought it a good time to reflect on some of the things we have been busy with this year.

2019 has certainly kept us on our toes. Brexit, processors and marts closing all over the country, farm safety, rural crime, political game-playing, NVZ's, bovine TB, mental health and many other farming matters meant we had to be alert and ready to defend the industry at all times.

Throughout the year, we have regularly met with Welsh and UK Government, including First Minister Mark Drakeford, our Cabinet Secretary Lesley Griffiths, as well as DEFRA minister Michael Gove and many other key decision-makers.

Our officials and staff have been working tirelessly to keep on top of proposed changes to farming policy in Wales, scrutinising legislation and doing their best to ensure that thriving, sustainable family farms are a thing of the future and not the past.

Farming Matters remained firmly on the agenda for us in 2019 and we used every opportunity to highlight the disastrous impacts a no-deal Brexit would have on farming in Wales and why farming matters to more than just farmers.

We were clear when we met politicians - not only do farms produce food, but they are also the cornerstone of our rural economies. Family farms are at the heart of our rural economy, caring for our landscape, and of course our culture.

You, our members, make innumerable other contributions to the well-being of Wales and the UK and central to such benefits is the production of food and the improvement in domestic food security.

Over the last 12 months, we have also made it clear that a multiannual financial framework needs to be agreed which ensures Welsh agriculture continues to receive sufficient levels of funding.

Sadly, the failure of UK governments to make progress on developing and agreeing on frameworks which protect Welsh and other producers against distortion within the UK's home market, remains an issue we will continue to tackle next year.

With this in mind, please rest assured that in the coming year the FUW will continue to be at the forefront of the fight to protect the interests of Wales' farming families and rural communities.

On a final note before our offices close for the Christmas break, I would like to thank our staff and officials for their continued effort and hard work throughout the year and each and every one of our members, who through their membership and support, contribute to a stronger, more successful voice for Wales' agricultural industry.

Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous 2020 to you all.

Rachel Saunders, from FUW

Water, water everywhere as Penarth Ramblers defy recent rain

TWO contrasting walks from Penarth and District Ramblers heralded the same problems in the shape of water and lots of mud following recent heavy rainfall.

Robin and his group of seven walkers set off in sunshine from Lower Redbrook in Monmouthshire, heading uphill on a muddy path through Forge Wood, before making their way to All Saints Church at Newland for their morning break.

Then, it was on past the Ostrich Inn and through a series of ploughed and muddy fields to join Offa's Dyke Path to reach the Kymin, where they visited The Naval Temple and the Roundhouse. Following lunch overlooking Monmouth, a descent on a slippery track through woodland brought them to the Wye Bridge, where they joined the Wye Valley Walk along the riverbank beside the swollen river for the journey back to their start.

William and his companions headed out from the ruined Barry Castle and, descending the Golden Stairs, were faced with floods in Porthkerry Country Park, before clambering up a slippery path to the Bulwarks Iron Age hillfort.

Making their way through Porthkerry Leisure Park onto the clifftop at Rhoose Point and past the the old flooded limestone quarries, they tramped to the old village pump in Rhoose village for their morning break. They headed for Kenson Hill, across the stone river bridge, followed by a difficult muddy journey through the Nant Carfan Valley. Cleaning their boots in the ford at Llancarfan, they visited St Cadoc's Church to admire the medieval wall paintings, and then set out for Penmark. More sodden fields led them to Port Road for the return via the Whitelands Valley, Porthkerry Viaduct and main meadow for a last climb through woodland to return to their start.

On December 21, a 10-mile moderate walk through parks and green spaces at Cardiff will leave Cogan Leisure Centre at 9am; call Rachel on 01446 410545.

On December 23, a 6-mile easy walk taking in clifftops and Cosmeston will leave Penarth clifftop car park at 10am; call Susan J on 07969 974 921.

On December 24, a 4-mile easy walk taking in Penarth parks and pier will leave All Saints Church, Penarth at 10am; call Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On December 27, a 6-mile easy walk around Cardiff Bay will leave Cogan Leisure Centre at 10am; call Ann on 029 2040 7319.

On December 30, a 4-mile easy walk taking in Porthkerry Park and Church will leave the Bridge car park, Cold Knap at 10am; call Jan/John on 01446 418514.

On January 1, a 4-mile easy/mod walk to the Salmon Leaps will leave Dinas Powys Village Square at 10.30am; call Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

For up to date information log onto *www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com* Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Joy Strangward

Festive season can be less than perfect for some

A MENTAL health charity has joined up with Twitter to encourage users to have open conversations about the pressures of Christmas.

Calm (Campaign Against Living Miserably) is hoping that the online discussions will show that Christmas is not always 'the most wonderful time of the year' for everyone.

Using the hashtag #YuleSlog, celebrities including Made In Chelsea's Louise Thompson and actress Vicky McClure are sharing posts showing how the festive period can be less than perfect.

It comes as a survey showed almost half of Twitter users felt anxious over pressure to have fun, lonely or left out of social events over Christmas.

While the period is typically associated with joyfulness and giving, people also can come under pressure to have a 'perfect' Christmas, experience family struggles and feel nostalgia for past Christmases.

These feelings can be exacerbated by social media posts of seemingly perfect get-togethers.

Line of Duty star McClure tweeted: "The pressure to have an amazing Christmas, we all want it to go smoothly, it never does! So whatever you see on people's social media this Christmas, that 'perfection' is never a true reflection".

The charity has created the acronym Noel to give people tips on how to cope: they say 'No, Open up, Enjoy what you can, and Look forward'.

Simon Gunning, chief executive of the Campaign Against Living Miserably (Calm), said: "The festive period can be a difficult time for lots of people, with 49% of Twitter users saying they felt pressured to have fun during the festive period.

In partnering with Twitter for the #YuleSlog campaign we want to acknowledge this and let people know that Calm understands.

"Spreading a message of reality and positivity can be empowering for those struggling through this period and with this partnership we aim to celebrate the power of connection and communication, something we see through our free and anonymous helpline and webchat, which are open from 5pm-midnight every day across Christmas."

Katy Minshall, head of UK Government, Public Policy and Philanthropy at Twitter said: "We're pleased to partner with Calm in this campaign as it leverages Twitter's public nature to encourage conversation around mental health - a topic that isn't easy to discuss especially at Christmas time.

"Calm's great work spans all year and hopefully #YuleSlog can generate some openness and support for those who need it."

Parents are hiring babysitters to act as 'hangover childcare'

A UK online childcare platform has revealed there is a growing trend of 'hangover childcare', after seeing requests for babysitters following festive celebrations increase by more than 500% compared with this time last year.

A survey of its parent members revealed that 85% would consider hiring a babysitter because of a hangover, with the majority answering it would help them recover quicker, and a third saying they aren't good parents while hungover.

This year, more than 1,800 parents have already requested childcare the day after festive celebrations in December and early January via the platform's free Babysitter Jobs feature.

The research, commissioned by Childcare.co.uk, found that there has been a 500% spike in requests from parents and guardians looking for childcare the morning after Friday, December 20 (also known as Frantic Friday), one of the most popular dates for Christmas parties, New Year's Day and the day after Boxing Day (December 27), when compared to the same period in 2018.

Childcare.co.uk is a platform which allows parents to search for and connect with babysitters, childminders, nannies, nurseries, private tutors and schools and also allows childcare providers to advertise their services. The site has more than 2 million users nationwide and is the largest online community for parents in the UK having launched in 2009.

Richard Conway, founder of Childcare.co.uk, said: "As a parent myself, I can understand why people might be looking for hangover childcare, especially during the festive period and after their work Christmas parties. I'm very interested to see whether this trend continues to grow next year too!"

Staff at The GEM would like to wish readers a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Amira is a child of courage!

Lindsay Roberts of Roberts Keen IFA presents Amira with a cheque for £500, raised by the Bridgend and Vale Business Club (BVBC)

A YOUNG girl from Maesteg, Amira Barry, has been named a 'Child of Courage' by her local radio station for her "inspiring" response to a diagnosis of leukaemia.

Amira, who goes to St Mary's and St Patrick's Primary School in Maesteg, was diagnosed with leukaemia in July 2018 at the age of six.

She spent two weeks in Noah's Ark Hospital, Cardiff, enduring intensive treatment, and will continue to have treatment until until September 2020.

This includes monthly visits to the hospital for steroids and chemotherapy, and a visit every three months for a lumber puncture, plus daily medication.

Throughout this time the family have been supported by the LATCH Welsh Children's cancer charity.

Having seen first hand the impact of their services, Amira and her family were keen to give back and help ensure Latch's support services continue for many years.

So, since her treatment began, Amira's family and community have been heavily involved in fundraising – with over £15,000 being raised in Amira's name alone in little over a year. The family has constantly used Amira's experience to highlight the work of LATCH.

Amira has recently been appointed as LATCH's youngest 'ambassador' and was also been awarded the accolade of 'Child of Courage' by Bridge FM.

Her proud grandmother, Joan Barry, told The GEM: "Throughout all her treatments and numerous admissions to hospital, Amira always has a smile on her face and is always thinking about others. She is an inspirational young girl to all who know her."

After hearing about Amira, the Bridgend and Vale Business Club (BVBC) recently decided to make a donation of £500 to her fundraising campaign

A Christmas message from police chief

AS we move towards Christmas, the South Wales Police head of the rural Vale, Chief Inspector Tony Williams is offering seasonal good wishes – and good advice:

"As we move towards the end of a very busy year, I would like to provide you with crime prevention advice to keep you safe over this festive period.

"Motorists in Cowbridge and the wider Vale area are being urged to ensure their vehicles are kept secure, with all valuables removed, following a number of thefts in recent weeks.

"The area has seen a spike in auto-crime, with five cars broken in to within the last week alone. A further five incidents were also reported during November.

"The vast majority of vehicles were left insecure, and while many of the thefts happened overnight, officers are reminding vehicle owners to be vigilant at all times.

"While people should be able to leave property in their cars and vans, or leave their car unlocked for a brief moment, it is a sad fact that it is simply not safe to do so.

"If you are going away at Christmas time, please secure your home by locking all the doors, windows and gates. Also, set timer lights and ask a neighbour or relative to keep an eye on your property.

"When you are out and about doing your Christmas shopping, make sure your purse and wallet are secure and away from pick-pockets and don't leave your new Christmas gifts on display in parked vehicles.

"After Christmas day, don't leave empty packaging of expensive items outside or on show because this could advertise to potential burglars what's in your home.

"If you are going out for the evening, ensure to plan your route in advance, carry a charged mobile phone and cash and tell someone where you are going and when you are due back. Whilst you are out, be vigilant by drinking sensibly, don't leave your glass unattended and make sure you know what you are drinking.

"There have been cases across the country where people have had their car stolen because they have left it unattended whilst it is defrosting with the engine running and the keys in the ignition. Don't give thieves an easy getaway!

"As always, officers will be carrying out the national Anti-Drink/Drug Drive Campaign which starts on December 18. The public are reminded about the dangers and risks of drink/drug driving.

"We would advise drivers to not even have one drink if you are driving, as this is the only safe option. If you are going out, choose a designated driver for the evening to ensure everyone's night ends safely.

"Finally, I would like to wish The GEM readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, from all officers in the Vale. Christmas is usually a very busy time for emergency services, I would like to personally thank officers and staff who will be working during this period and won't be able to spend time with their families."

Just Go! Holidays
UK BREAKS
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BOURNEMOUTH
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Departing Monday 15 Jun

From our base in the bustling resort of Bournemouth with its golden sands and historic pier, we explore neighbouring Poole and the glorious gardens at Exbury. We also discover the heart-warming story of the rescue of primates at the Monkey World sanctuary.

Your break includes
- Return coach travel from Bridgend & Cardiff
- 4 nights at the Heathlands Hotel, Bournemouth with dinner & breakfast
- Excursions to Exbury Gardens and Steam Railway, Monkey World & Poole

Optional excursion to Dorchester Market & Weymouth (£12pp)

5 Days by Coach only £329
Single Supplement £60

GREAT LITTLE TRAINS
of North Wales

Departing Monday 29 Jun

Join us as we explore the spectacular scenery and historic railways and tramways of North Wales. A rugged coastline, magnificent castles and the endless panoramas of the Snowdonia National Park make for a memorable break away from it all.

Your break includes
- Return coach travel from Bridgend & Cardiff
- 4 nights at the Westminster Hotel, Rhyl with dinner & breakfast
- Entertainment some evenings
- Heritage journeys on the Welsh Highland Railway, Great Orme Tramway & Ffestiniog Railway
- Excursions to Caernarfon, Llandudno & Portmeirion

5 Days by Coach only £319
Single Supplement £60

ISLE OF WIGHT
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Departing Monday 7 Sep

From the striking natural majesty of The Needles to the peaceful inland villages, the Isle of Wight is a haven of old-fashioned charm and inspiring scenery. With elegant resort towns, spotless beaches and miles of unspoilt coastline, it's a timeless destination.

Your break includes
- Return coach travel and ferry crossings from Bridgend & Cardiff
- 4 nights at the Medehamstede Hotel, Shanklin with dinner & breakfast
- Entertainment some evenings
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- Excursions to Osborne House, Cowes & Ryde

Optional Island Highlights Tour (£12pp)

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Single Supplement £60

For more information, or to book, please call
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VALE of GLAMORGAN
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Rydym yn cydnabod ein bod oll yn cynhyrchu llawer mwy o wastraff ac ailgylchu dros y cyfnod hwn, felly, fel y gwnaethom addo, o **ddydd Llun 23 Rhagfyr 2019 – dydd Gwener 10 Ionawr 2020,** ni fydd y cyfyngiad o 2 fag du fesul cartref yn berthnasol. **Bydd y cyfyngiad i 2 fag du yn ail-ddechrau o ddydd Llun 13 Ionawr 2020**

Ailgylchu

Gall pob bwyd sy'n weddill, gan gynnwys pilion llysiau a sgerbydau tyrcwn fynd i'ch bin gwastraff bwyd. Gall cardiau Nadolig (heb gliter/ffoil) a chardfwrdd fynd yn eich bocs gwyrdd/bag glas neu eich bag oren os ydych chi ar y gwasanaeth newydd.

Peidiwch â chynnwys unrhyw bapur lapio yn eich bagiau neu flychau ailgylchu. Dylid gosod pob papur lapio yn eich bag du.

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Byddwn yn casglu Coed Nadolig o
ddydd Llun 13 Ionawr i ddydd Gwener 17 Ionawr 2020
ar eich diwrnod casglu arferol.

Dim ond coed Nadolig go iawn allwn ni eu casglu i'w hailgylchu. Gwaredwch unrhyw addurniadau ac unrhyw bridd. Os yw'n dalach na 6 troedfedd, torrwch y goeden i'r hyd yma a'i gadael ar y pafin erbyn 7.00am.

www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk

Ffôn: 01446 700111 E-bost: C1V@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

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Dydd Mawrth 24 Rhagfyr	-	Dim newid
Dydd Mercher 25 Rhagfyr	i	Ddydd Gwener 27 Rhagfyr
Dydd Iau 26 Rhagfyr	i	Ddydd Sadwrn 28 Rhagfyr
Dydd Gwener 27 Rhagfyr	i	Ddydd Sul 29 Rhagfyr
Dydd Llun 30 Rhagfyr	-	Dim newid
Dydd Mawrth 31 Rhagfyr	-	Dim newid
Dydd Mercher 1 Ionawr 2020	i	Ddydd Iau 2 Ionawr
Dydd Iau 2 Ionawr	i	Ddydd Gwener 3 Ionawr
Dydd Gwener 3 Ionawr	i	Ddydd Sadwrn 4 Ionawr

Diwrnod ailgylchu arferol o 6 Ionawr

Bro Morgannwg yn ailgylchu
Vale of Glamorgan recycles

Canolfannau ailgylchu gwastraff y cartref

Bydd ein Canolfannau Ailgylchu Gwastraff y Cartref ar Ystâd Fasnachu'r Iwerydd ac Ystâd Ddiwydiannol Llandŵ ar gau **Ddydd Nadolig, Gŵyl San Steffan a Dydd Calan.**

Your CHRISTMAS waste and recycling

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

Temporary lift on black bag restriction for Christmas and New Year collections

We recognise that we all produce a lot more waste and recycling this time of year, so, as promised, from **Monday 23 December 2019 - Friday 10 January 2020** there will be **no** black bag restrictions between these dates. **The 2 black bags restriction will resume from Monday 13 January 2020.**

Recycling

All your food leftovers including vegetable peelings and turkey carcasses can go in your food waste bin. Christmas cards and cardboard without glitter can be included in your blue bag or recycling box or in your orange bag if you are on the new service.

Please do not include any wrapping paper in your recycling bags or boxes. All wrapping paper should be placed in your black bag.

Unfortunately we are unable to collect: fairy lights, sticky tape, bows, tinsel/decoration, polystyrene or gift bag handles.

Christmas tree recycling

We will collect Christmas Trees from
Monday 13 January to Friday 17 January 2020
on your normal collection day.

We can only collect real trees for recycling. Please remove any decorations and soil. If longer than 6 foot please cut down to this size and place at the kerbside by 7.00am.

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Tel: 01446 700111 Email: C1V@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Thank you for your cooperation whilst we've rolled out changes to the recycling and waste service. Here's a reminder about some changes to the service over the festive period. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Your Christmas and New Year collection days

Normal Collection Day:		Changes to:
Tuesday 24 December	-	No change
Wednesday 25 December	to	Friday 27 December
Thursday 26 December	to	Saturday 28 December
Friday 27 December	to	Sunday 29 December
Monday 30 December	-	No change
Tuesday 31 December	-	No change
Wednesday 1 January 2020	to	Thursday 2 January
Thursday 2 January	to	Friday 3 January
Friday 3 January	to	Saturday 4 January

Normal collection days from 6 January

Bro Morgannwg yn ailgylchu
Vale of Glamorgan recycles

Household waste recycling centres

Our Household Waste Recycling Centres in Atlantic Trading Estate and Llandow Industrial Estate are closed on **Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.**

Panto cast visit terminally ill patients

PATIENTS at the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale Hospice on Bridgeman Road, Penarth, met members of the cast from the New Theatre's production Cinderella – including the Fairy Gokmother played by the well-known TV presenter, Gok Wan.

The New Theatre's spectacular family pantomime also stars comedian Mike Doyle and Ceri Dupree as The Ugly Sisters.

Comedian Phil Butler has also taken on the role of Buttons.

The show will be running until Sunday 12 January 2020 and promises a production packed full of sensational special effects, beautiful costumes, music, comedy, dancing, and audience participation.

Between performances on Wednesday, the cast popped by the Penarth hospice, which provides round-the-clock expert care and support for people living with a terminal illness, and their families, to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Gok Wan said: "It was fantastic to meet some of the wonderful patients at the hospice today and to spread a little Christmas Cheer. The staff here provide such fantastic care and it's lovely to see how well looked after everyone is.

"Christmas can be a difficult time of year for people living with a terminal illness so we were delighted to have the opportunity to spread a little magic."

Sarah Lloyd-Davies, hospice manager, said: "We try to do as much as we can to make sure Christmas continues to be a special occasion for the patients we care for, and their families, leading up to the big day – and on Christmas Day itself.

"We are so grateful to everyone who visits the hospice around this period to provide our patients – and our staff – with a little entertainment.

"Thank you to the cast of Cinderella for coming along and spreading some festive cheer."

Marie Curie's Information and Support Line will be open from 10am to 4pm on Christmas Eve and from 10am to 2pm on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. On New Year's Eve it will open from 10am to 4pm, and 10am to 2pm again on New Year's Day.
If you need support, call 0800 090 2309.

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- Exclusive Contemporary Family Home
- Landscaped Gardens and Grounds of c.1 Acre
- Six Bedrooms
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- Cowbridge School Catchment
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- Set in Heart of Llanblethian

£1,395,000

Cwrt Newydd Farm, Welsh St Donats

- Impressive Smallholding
- Circa 20 Acres
- Farmhouse Dating back to circa 1850
- Owned solar panels
- Chalet style lodge to garden
- Range of Stone Barns
- Further steel portal barns and dutch barn
- Popular rural location
- Excellent pasture, flat and good for grazing with solid stock fencing

£1,395,000

Ashleigh House, Llandow

- Substantial 26 acre Smallholding
- Detached Residence
- Usefully Flexible Accommodation
- 14,500sqft Equestrian Centre
- Easy Access to Major Centres
- Modern 3000sqft Barn
- Few Minutes Drive into Cowbridge
- Seven Bedrooms
- Impressive Tree Lined Driveway Entrance

£1,200,000

Ash Tree House, Llanblethian

- Quality Family House
- Three Living Rooms
- Good Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Rear Paddock Included
- Rural Views
- Behind the Village Church
- Close to Cowbridge

£799,950

The Old Manse, St Nicholas

- Former Manse
- Built 1910
- Original features
- Modern Facilities
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Living Rooms
- Wonderful Gardens
- Tucked Away Location
- Village Facilities
- Close to Cardiff

£595,000

Whitecrofts, St Georges Super Ely

- Impressive Modern Detached
- Five Double Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Renovated by Current Owners
- Double Garage
- Beautiful Countryside Views
- Off Road Parking
- Modern Fitted Kitchen and Bathroom
- 61ft Rear Garden

£549,950

Llantwit Major Road, Cowbridge

- Individually Designed Four Bed Detached Property
- Far Reaching Views
- 26 ft. Drawing Room
- Integrated Garage
- Town Centre Location
- Good Sized Flat Plot
- Viewing Recommended
- Excellent Village Facilities
- Cowbridge School Catchment

£499,999

Lon Yr Eglwys, St Brides Major

- Executive Detached Property
- Extended Internally
- Four Reception Rooms
- Four Bedrooms
- Sauna
- Master En-suite
- Double Garage
- Close to Local Amenities
- Excellent Countryside Views Towards the Coast

£485,000

Highfield, Talygarn

- Imposing Detached Property
- Offering Five Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Detached Garage
- Impressive Gated Entrance
- Extensive Gardens
- Fusion of Character and Modernity
- Stunning Views
- Subject to Recent Refurbishment and Modernisation

£675,000

Malefant Grange, Llanmaes

- Imposing Detached House
- Five Bedrooms
- Two Further Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Large Basement Family Room
- Mains Gas Fired Central Heating
- Attractive Front and Rear Gardens

£595,000

Cae Rex, Cowbridge

- Individual Detached Property
- No Onward Chain
- Adaptable Accommodation
- Four/Five Bedrooms
- South Facing Gardens
- Detached Garage
- Cowbridge School Catchment
- Walking Distance to Cowbridge

£545,000

Lyndale, Llanblethian

- Large Detached House
- Four Bedrooms
- Sought After Location
- Three Reception Rooms
- Double Garage with Workshop
- Extensive Landscaped Gardens
- Heart of the Rural Vale of Glamorgan

£499,950

Heol Cae Pwll, Colwinston

- High Quality Redrow Home
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Colwinston Village Location
- Two En-suites
- Cowbridge School Catchment
- Double Garage
- Excellent Access Links
- Private Driveway
- Lovely Countryside Views

£475,000

Sideways Cottage, Barry

- Dating Back to circa 1650
- Five Bedrooms
- Deceptively Large Detached
- Three Bathrooms
- Plenty of Original Features
- Three Reception Rooms
- Feature Inglenook Corner Bread Oven
- Palmerston and Wenvoe Primary School Catchment

£300,000

Glan Ffrwd, Coychurch

- Traditional Bay Fronted Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Victorian and Built in 1911
- Two Bathrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking
- Original Features Throughout
- Separate Attached Annexe
- Converted to a High Specification

£299,995

Western Courtyard, Talygarn

- Modern Townhouse
- Stylishly Appointed
- Three Bed/Two Bath
- Two Living Rooms
- Quality Kitchen
- Walkable Local Amenities
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Out & About with The GEM

Porthcawl Medical Centre steps into Christmas with carols in their new home

ABOVE:
Children from West Park Primary School Choir.

STAFF and patients at Porthcawl Medical Centre have been getting in to the Christmas spirit with help from pupils from local primary schools.

Children from Nottage Primary School, West Park Primary School, Newton Primary and Porthcawl Primary visited the practice last week to sing Christmas carols.

Over the past month pupils have also taken part in a Christmas tree decoration competition. The winners of the competition were presented with prizes on Friday by the Mayor of Porthcawl, Cllr Graham Walter, in a special service.

Porthcawl Male Voice Choir were also on hand to entertain staff, patients and pupils.

The medical centre moved to the new premises earlier this year.

Dr Peter Evans, Senior Partner at the practice said: "We love our new building and we love Christmas so to bring the two together is amazing. We don't want children to be frightened of coming here. We want them to see it as a health centre not as an illness centre.

"We are really grateful to the teachers and children who have embraced the idea and been so fantastic in their singing. Staff and patients have been so impressed by the standard and quality of the decorations made by all the children and we want to thank them all for their hard work and for making our first Christmas in this amazing new building so special".

Twenty-two children were chosen as winners of the Christmas tree decoration competition and all received a certificate and selection box. The overall winner from each school also received an Amazon voucher.

The decorations from many of the children that took part from all four schools now decorate the Christmas tree in the entrance of the Medical Centre.

A year of popular talks at a Penarth bookstore

THAT'S a wrap – Penarth's independent bookshop, Griffin Books, brought its 2019 programme of author events to a close with two sell-out events at the end of November.

On November 19, over 300 people attended An Evening with Warren Gatland at Cardiff's Hilton Hotel. The former Wales head coach spoke openly and honestly about his personal life and his long and illustrious career in rugby, before signing copies of his autobiography *Pride and Passion*.

Keeping Faith

On November 27, novelist and screenwriter Matthew Hall spoke about the TV phenomenon *Keeping Faith* and his popular 'Coroner' series of novels with bookshop owner Mel Griffin.

Matt was joined on stage for the Q&A by *Keeping Faith* cast members Alex Harries, Aneirin Hughes and Penarth's own Suzanne Packer.

Over the last year Griffin Books has welcomed a whole host of big-name writers to Penarth, including David Nicholls, Victoria Hislop, Chris Riddell, Elly Griffiths, Ann Cleeves, David Nott, Tess Gerritsen, Clare Mackintosh, and not forgetting Welsh sporting hero Sam Warburton; while also giving a platform to emerging talent and local authors such as: Ruth Morgan, Laura Kemp, DK Fields, Adrian Goldsworthy, Dr Matt Morgan, Sam Hurcom and Vanessa Savage to name only a few.

The 2020 event programme kicks off on Friday, January 17 with Matt Pritchard returning with his second vegan cookbook, *Dirty Vegan: Another Bite*, followed by lunch with crime superstar Sophie Hannah on Tuesday, January 28.

Tickets are now on sale from Griffin Books (call 029 2070 6455) or book online via: *www.ticketsource.co.uk/griffinbooks*.

MG

What's on and where?

Councillors' surgery

LLANTWIT First Independent councillors will be holding a surgery at the Old School, Wine Street, Llantwit Major on Saturday, December 21, and Saturday, January 4, from 9.30am until 11.30am.

Residents who have any issue to raise are welcome to attend.

Concert for local Scouts

THE South Wales Male Voice Choir are coming to Stanwell Road Baptist Church, Penarth on Saturday, December 21, at 7pm for a concert in support of two members of the 94th Penarth Scout and Guide group.

Nia and Oscar from Penarth are going to a World Jamboree in Poland next summer. This charity concert has been arranged to help them attend this exciting event The choir will be supported by a lovely soprano from the Welsh National Youth Opera, Ellie Ghent. Tickets available on the door.

New Year's Day auction for Sandville

THERE will be a New Year's Day charity auction in aid of the Sandville Self Help Centre at the Prince of Wales pub, Ton Kenfig.

It all starts at 3pm. Come along and enjoy a fun afternoon with lots of bargains.

AM's Cowbridge surgery

JANE Hutt AM will be holding an advice surgery at Cowbridge Town Hall, Cowbridge High Street, CF71 7DD on Friday, December 20, from 4pm to 5pm.

Councillors' surgery

The Labour councillors for Buttrills, Cadoc, Castleland and Court Wards will be holding their monthly advice surgery on Saturday, December 21, in the small community room, Barry Library, King Square, 10am–11am.

No appointment is necessary.

Solstice event in Barry

A Solstice event will be held in the St Francis Millennium Hall, Barry, on Saturday, December 21, at 7.30pm.

Suggested Donations (between £5 and £10 or what you can afford) in aid of Barry Action for Nature.

The event is hosted by Porthkerry Community Choir and will include guest performers in including Oasis World Choir and Band, and local artist Glyn Pooley will be there to help us welcome in the Solstice.

Past Lives Museum

PAST Lives Museum's owner, curator and archivist Cheryl Hart is thrilled to announce that there will be an extended promotional event for the museum – almost three weeks – beginning on Monday, December 16 and continuing into the new year, closing on Saturday, January 4.

The event will continue to promote our campaign to acquire suitable premises to move the museum into the town centre, and will feature an exhibition 'A Celebration of Christmas Past', plus a collection of antique and vintage children's toys, games, and books from years gone by. You can visit us for this event in Bridgend town centre in the indoor market hall, Rhiw Shopping Centre. For further details see our Facebook page *www.facebook.com/events/560508918063252/* or email *pastlives.history@gmail.com*.

Boxing Day swim

WHITMORE Bay voluntary lifeguards' annual Boxing Day Swim is on December 26 outside the Lifeguard Station, Western Shelter, Barry Island – entering the water at 10am!

PACT meeting

BETTWS PACT public meeting at Bettws Life Centre on Thursday, January 2, at 5pm.

Choir concert at Fonmon

A WINTER Concert with Barry Male Voice Choir at Fonmon Castle, in support of Rhoose Community Library will take place on Sunday, December 29 from 7pm to late.

Tickets £15 to include a hot supper; licensed bar. Tickets available from Rhoose Community Library and Fonmon Castle. Enquiries 01446 710206.

Jack & The Beanstalk, a giant of a pantomime!

BACK by popular demand, it's the return of Gerry Graham Panto to Llantwit Major with this year's show 'Jack & The Beanstalk'.

Gerry Graham pantomimes are always a laugh a minute, with plenty of audience participation and there will be two performances: Friday, January 3 in Llantonian Hall at 3pm and 5.45pm.

Tickets are available from the Town Hall in Llantwit Major at £5 per person with under twos free

Send us your stories, photos, letters, sports reports and details of events to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

End of an area as final Star Wars movie hits the big screen

DAMON Smith reviews the latest releases. This week: Daisy Ridley, Adam Driver, John Boyega and Oscar Isaac prepare for battle in STAR WARS EPISODE IX: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER... and Oscar-winning director Tom Hooper invites audiences to purr with delight at the Jellicle Ball in the starry musical CATS.

LEFT: Pictured: Joonas Suotamo as Chewbacca, Oscar Isaac as Poe Dameron, BB-8, John Boyega as Finn, Daisy Ridley as Rey and Anthony Daniels as C-3PO

Star Wars Episode IX: The Rise of Skywalker
Released: December 19 (UK & Ireland)

JJ Abrams, director of Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens, soothes nerves after the upheaval of Star Wars Episode VIII: The Last Jedi to helm the concluding chapter of the sci-fi saga, which has been jumping to light speed for more than 40 years.

Following the death of Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill), Rey (Daisy Ridley) finds herself on a parallel journey of self-discovery to Kylo Ren (Adam Driver), who has assumed the position of Supreme Leader of the First Order after the demise of Snoke (Andy Serkis).

Finn (John Boyega) and courageous X-Wing pilot Poe Dameron (Oscar Isaac) accompany Rey on her daredevil mission, with support from General Leia Organa (Carrie Fisher) and her loyal supporters.

Meanwhile, a shift in the Force signals the surprise return of Emperor Palpatine aka Darth Sidious (Ian McDiarmid).

Ardent fans of the series can watch all three films in the most recent trilogy back to back starting at 6pm on Wednesday December 18, with Episode IX scheduled to begin at one minute past midnight.

Cats
Released: December 20 (UK & Ireland)

Loosely based on TS Eliot's collection of poems Old Possum's Book Of Practical Cats, the stage production of Cats with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber once held the honour of the longest running musical in London's West End and on Broadway.

Tom Hooper's ambitious film version, adapted for the screen by Lee Hall, employs state-of-the-art digital trickery to add fur to a starry human cast, who perform many of the original songs to choreography by Andy Blankenbuehler, who won the Tony Award for Hamilton.

Cats gather excitedly at the Jellicle Ball to learn who will be granted a precious extra life by Old Deuteronomy (Dame Judi Dench).

Among the hopeful felines are Bustopher Jones (James Corden), Rum Tum Tugger (Jason Derulo), Grizabella (Jennifer Hudson), Gus The Theatre Cat (Sir Ian McKellen), Bombalurina (Taylor Swift), Jennyanydots (Rebel Wilson) and Victoria (Francesca Hayward).

When scheming Macavity (Idris Elba) gatecrashes the ball with malevolent intent, the cats must temporarily put differences aside to restore peace.

Hooper's film includes a new song, Beautiful Ghosts, co-written by Swift and Lloyd Webber.

The Courier
Released: December 20 (UK, selected cinemas)

Olga Kurylenko puts the pedal to the metal in a high-octane action thriller directed by Zackary Adler.

FBI special agent Roberts (Dermot Mulroney) and his team arrest sadistic crime lord Ezekiel Mannings (Gary Oldman) in a church in New York City and prepare to put him behind bars for life with testimony from witness Nick Murch (Amit Shah).

He is the sole witness to Mannings' heinous indiscretions and the entire case hinges on his damning confession.

An unsuspecting motorcycle courier (Kurylenko) is hired to deliver a package to Nick, which supposedly contains the keys to his freedom.

In fact, the parcel contains a bomb intended to kill him.

Marked for death at the hands of Mannings' heavily armed henchmen, the courier joins forces with Nick to keep the star witness alive and ensure justice is served.

LITTLE WOMEN
Released: December 26 (UK & Ireland)

Writer-director Greta Gerwig, who was nominated for two Oscars for the comedy drama Lady Bird, follows that triumph with a chronologically fractured adaptation of Louisa May Allcott's beloved 1868 novel of the same title.

Marmee March (Laura Dern) presides warmly over the family home while her husband (Bob Odenkirk) is away, bravely fighting in the American Civil War.

Her four daughters pursue their dreams: Jo (Saoirse Ronan) wishes to become a writer, Meg (Emma Watson) hopes to become a famous actress, Amy (Florence Pugh) yearns to step out of Jo's shadow so that handsome next-door neighbour Laurie (Timothee Chalamet) might look her way, and Beth (Eliza Scanlen) loves to play the piano.

The siblings' paths diverge courtesy of romantic dalliances and grave sickness, eventually taking Amy to Europe in the company of clucky Aunt March (Meryl Streep).

There, one little woman grows up and finds her powerful voice.

SPIES IN DISGUISE (PG, 102 mins)
Released: December 26 (UK & Ireland)

Troy Quane and Nick Bruno make their directorial debuts with a madcap computer-animated comedy, which imagines the comical repercussions of a malfunctioning spy agency gizmo.

Lance Sterling (Will Smith) is the most famous operative at a government-funded spy agency overseen by Joy Jenkins (Reba McEntire).

He is assigned to capture cybernetic criminal mastermind Killian (Ben Mendelsohn), who has repeatedly evaded capture.

To give himself a competitive edge, Lance drinks an experimental "biodynamics concealment" serum created by MIT genius Walter Beckett (Tom Holland), who works in the agency's gadget department.

Instead of making Lance invisible, the concoction morphs the suave agent into a pigeon.

Walter attempts to convince Lance that a bird is the perfect disguise to get close to Killian and topple his empire.

Consequently, the hapless teenager becomes Lance's "wing man" on a globe-trotting adventure while internal affairs agent Marcy Keppel (Rashida Jones) gives chase to gather intelligence.

Back at base, communications and technology specialists Ears (DJ Khaled) and Eyes (Karen Gillan) offer vital support to ensure the mission is a success.

PLAYING WITH FIRE
Released: December 26 (UK & Ireland)

Lifesavers discover that they are poorly equipped to deal with unexpected disaster - three helpless children - in a coming-of-middle age comedy directed by Andy Fickman.

Captain Jake Carson (John Cena) takes charge of a team of brave smoke jumpers, who parachute into forest fires to tackle blazes from inside the inferno.

His squad includes Mark Rogers (Keegan-Michael Key), Rodrigo Torres (John Leguizamo) and aptly named silent giant Axe (Tyler Mane).

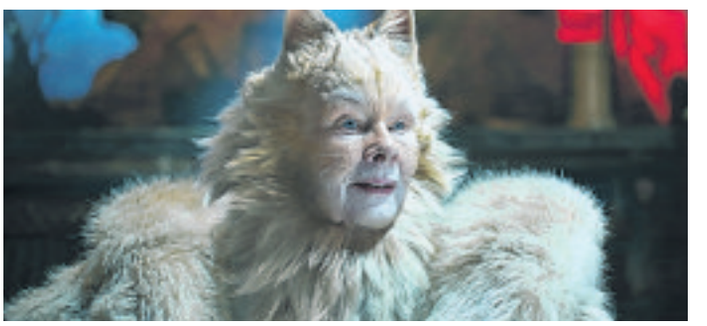
A storm rages around the station and one of the nearby cabins catches fire.

Jake and his men respond to the blaze and inside they discover three terrified siblings - Brynn (Brianna Hildebrand), Will (Christian Convery) and little Zoey (Finley Rose Slater).

As first responders, the smoke jumpers become temporary guardians of the tykes until the weather improves, aided by sassy field biologist Dr Amy Hicks (Judy Greer).

Brynn, Will and Zoey run amok at the fire station, leaving destruction in their wake, just as retiring division commander Richards (Dennis Haysbert) prepares to make a surprise inspection of Jake's station to see if the captain has what it takes to replace him.

ABOVE: Daisy Ridley plays Rey in the new Star Wars film



ABOVE: Dame Judi Dench in Cats.

BELOW: Singer Taylor Swift in Cats

Tabernacle Choir's Christmas concert in Bridgend.

ON December 6, Tabernacle Choir in Bridgend entertained an appreciative audience in their annual Christmas concert.

In the first half their performance of Vivaldi's 'Gloria in D' reflected the joyous nature of the work, its contrasting rhythms and variation in pace. Performers and audience alike enjoyed this performance.

The choir was joined by soloists Sian Cameron and Alison Shone, who delighted listeners with their rendering of the lively duet 'Laudamus Te'.

The second half of the concert comprised a variety of Christmas musical styles in both Welsh and English.

One of the highlights of the second half of the concert was the piano playing of the Kwok sisters. The three sisters, Charlotte (13), and twins Yola and Melody (10) together won the instrumental ensemble competition in the 2017 National Urdd Eisteddfod.

The choir's grateful thanks go to accompanist Glenn Crooks who played both the organ and piano with great skill, and also to our hardworking conductor Matthew Nash. Tabernacle Choir is very fortunate to be led by such talented musicians.

Finally a note to put in your new diaries: the choir's next performance will be on Sunday June 21 when they will be performing Mozart's Coronation Mass with soloists and orchestra.

MR

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg celebrates Christmas Jumper Day!

RECENTLY, the pupils at the all-age Ysgol Bro Morgannwg donned their Christmas jumpers to support 'Save the Children'.

It was a fun-filled festive event, with the school raising over £500 for the charity. Even the teachers got involved!

Everyone looked sparking and happy as they counted down the days until the Christmas break. Nadolig Llawen gan Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg./

HL

Tea dancers' donation to Marie Curie

THE Monday afternoon tea dancers at the Paget Rooms in Penarth held their Christmas Party on December 16, where they gave a donation of £600 to Nerys a representative from the Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth, for all their good works.

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle, especially the Principality Building Society and Tesco Express Penarth.

Members of the Monday tea dance would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2020.

Our dance starts back on Monday, January 13, 2pm to 4 pm. All are welcome.

LB

Susan designs Bridgend Town Mayor's Christmas card

A COMPETITION for Carnegie House art classes to design the Bridgend Town Council Mayor's Christmas card, which attracted over 40 entries, has been won by Susan Cates of Pen-y-fai.

The design was inspired by the annual arrival of Santa to Bridgend and his grotto, run by Bridgend Lions in Carnegie House. The original design was completed in pencils and embellished with gems.

The Mayor, Cllr Alan Wathan, was overwhelmed by the number and standard of entries received, which made picking the winner very difficult. However, the Mayor said: "I chose Susan's design as it illustrates perfectly everything about Christmas at Carnegie House."

Susan was taken aback, but delighted when Artist in Residence Claire Hiett announced that her design had been chosen to adorn the Mayor's Christmas card, which will be sent far afield to Bridgend's twin towns in France, Germany and Belgium.

Carnegie House community art classes, led by Claire take place twice a week and the groups participate in national and international projects.

Busy month for volunteers at Porthcawl NCI

IN November, the National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) in Porthcawl dealt with four logged incidents and monitored a further 14, taking us to 83 logged incidents to date.

During the month we were also subject to an unannounced DFS inspection.

This is necessary to ensure we meet the stringent requirements to maintain our Declared Facility Status with UK Coastguard; the rigorous inspection is an annual event and deals with a wide range of issues, from simulated 'Mayday' incidents, to health and safety.

We actually had a real-life incident during the inspection and are pleased to report that we passed the inspection and continue to form part of the UK Search and Rescue infrastructure.

As well as seeking to assist members of the public in times of need, we endeavour to support local wildlife. Indeed, recently we summoned swan rescue to deal with an injured wild bird in distress on Porthcawl pier. A number of seals, dolphins and porpoises can be seen frequently in the waters off Porthcawl and being able to observe them in their natural habitat is one of the pleasures of being a watchkeeper at Porthcawl.

NW

Vale AM visits Barry artist's exhibition at the Wales Millennium Centre

BARRY-BASED artist Carl Chapple is an Artist in Residence to Ballet Cymru, Wales' International Ballet Company, whose exhibition 'Painting Dance' is currently on display in the WMC in Cardiff Bay.

Carl's exhibition has over 60 works featuring the work of Ballet Cymru, including dancers with disabilities.

The exhibition is on display until Sunday, January 5 and is supported by the WMC and Arts Council of Wales.

Jane Hutt, pictured right with Carl Chapple, said: "It was wonderful to be able to visit Carl's exhibition and look at his work, it is great to see a Barry-based artist on display in the Wales Millennium Centre."

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Family Notices

TUCKER
Graham

After a long and courageous fight with cancer. A beloved husband to Marilyn, a cherished father, father-in-law, gramps and great-grandfather, passed away on 9th December 2019.

He will be sadly missed by all who loved him but will live forever in our hearts.

A celebration of his life will be held on Monday, 30th December 2019 at Coychurch Crematorium at 11am.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be made to Y Bwthyn Newydd or Velindre Cancer Centre.

KING
Heather Susan Washington

Peacefully at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff on Sunday, 8th Decmber 2019. Much loved wife of Robert, mother of William, Lynda, and Karen. Loving grandmother, great grandmother, sister and stepmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, 20th December, service and cremation 10am at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Salvation Army c/o the funeral director.

PIPPIN
Philip Michael

Philip passed away peacefully, aged 71 years, at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend on 9th December 2019. Loved husband of Patricia Anne, loved by sister Yvonne; adored father to Carwyn and Alun; grandad to Heulwen, Megan and Ieuan.

Philip will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare until the funeral service at 10.30am, Monday, 30th December 2019 at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend.

Family flowers only. Donations if desired may be made to Cancer Research.

WILLIAMS
Richard Glyndwr (Glyn Gadlys)

Peacefully on Monday, 2nd December 2019, Glyn. Dearly loved husband of Shirley, much loved step father of Anthony, Gwyneth, Alison and Janet and their families and a dear brother, brother-in-law and uncle.

Funeral Monday, 30th December 2019, friends please meet for Service at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.15pm. No flowers by request, however, donations for Velindre Fundraising and The Stroke Association will be gratefully received by the family.

Enquiries to Gareth Watts, Owen E Jones & Co Ltd, Maesteg. Tel 01656 733167.

COOK
Colin Arthur

Colin A. Cook, aged 72 of Wenvoe, Vale of Glamorgan, died on the 8th December. Husband to Mary, who loved him dearly and who will miss him forever. Colin died at home with some of his family, after suffering for many years with ill health.

Colin was the only son of the late Elsie and Arthur Cook and his late sister Sheila. His niece Helen and her husband, Robert O'Callaghan and his great-niece Phoebe remained close in his heart.

Colin has been a loving and supportive step-parent to all the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was very proud of their successes and supported them in their difficulties.

Colin was an enthusiastic angler for many years, and had many friends and colleagues who shared the same interest. He was a very successful angler, culminating with a Gold medal for being in the angling fresh water team which won the World Championship in Bulgaria. The only time that Wales won the title.

His sense of humour and genuine character was loved by everyone.

The funeral service to celebrate Colin's life will take place at Cardiff and Glamorgan crematorium on Thursday, January 2nd at 11am. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made at the service to Cancer Research or sent to the funeral director. Colin requested that no black should be worn, this is a celebration of Colin's life which he lived to the full.

Resting at Robert Johnson Funeral Directors, 29, Holton Road, Barry. Tel 01446 733844.

KRONDA
Lilian (Lil)

On 30th November 2019, peacefully at Singleton Hospital, Swansea, Lil aged 82 years, formerly of Leicester Road, (Barnard Town). Devoted wife of the late Alec, a dearly loved mother, cherished grandmother and great-grandmother.

She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Funeral Monday, 6th January, service at Langstone Vale Crematorium at 2.30pm.

The family have asked that everyone wear something purple, Lil's favourite colour.

Family flowers only please but donations in Lil's memory may payable to Cancer UK, may be sent c/o Tovey Bros 9/11 Cardiff Road, Newport, NP20 2EH - www.toveybros.co.uk

JESSEY
Bettine Valerie

Peacefully on Tuesday, 10th December 2019 at Llandough Hospital, Bettine passed away. Dearly loved widow of the late John and greatly loved mother of Michael, Lesley, Claudia, Annaliese, Paul and Odette. Much loved mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James and Sons. Funeral will be held at All Saints Church at 12noon on Friday, 3rd January 2020, followed by cremation at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry at 1pm.

Family flowers only, any donations to Dementia and Stroke Association please.

MERRICK
Annette Jane

Sadly announcing the passing of Annette, aged 61 years on 9th December 2019. Annette was an amazing partner, sister and auntie, as well as a devoted friend. She has brought a light to our family's life that will never be forgotten and will be sorely missed. She has been beloved by so many, which has been a great comfort at this time.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until her funeral service at A G. Adams Chapel on Friday, 3rd January 2020 at 11am, followed by an interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family Flowers only, but donations in lieu of flowers may be made at the service, if desired.

PICKETT
Andrew (Andy)

Passed away peacefully on 5th December 2019, aged 69, with his family by his side. Cherished and adored partner to Marian. Loving dad to Darrell, Tara, Katie, Nicola and his beloved fur baby, Roxy. Adored bampi to Joey, Louie, Thomas, Ruby, Charlie, Emily, Poppy and Alexander. Brother to Edwin, Freda and John.

Andy will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

He will live on forever in our hearts.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service on Friday, 20th December at 1pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only please. Donations if desired, in memory of Andy, may be made to Velindre Cancer Centre at the service.

HELLERMAN
Karl

The family wish to announce the sad passing of Karl on 13th December, after a long illness bravely fought. Devoted husband to Mandy, Hero Dad of Hayley and Amy. An adored bampi of Lily, Poppy, Cohen and Seren. Cherished, youngest son of Margaret and Bernard. A loving brother to Wayne and Gary, special brother-in-law of Andrew.

Karl will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service at St Helens RC Church, Barry on Friday, 27th December at 10.45am, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family floral tributes only. Donations may be made at the service to support The British Heart Foundation in memory of Karl.

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Family Notices

HENSON
Eileen Edith

Peacefully passed away on 6th December 2019. Adored wife of the late Bill, and much loved mother of Lynda. Forever a great gran to Zoë, Michael and Norma; Stephanie and Paul; and Great Gran to Lucus, Maile, Zulah and Esmee.

Celebration of her life on 2nd January 2020, 2.45pm at Coychurch Crematorium.

Family flowers only.

ZAMMIT
Caroline Jean

After a long illness on 13th December, 2019, aged 50 years. Loving wife to Vince, cherished daughter to Diane and Peter, special sister to Fran.

Caroline will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Thursday, 2nd January at 10am.

Family flowers only. Donations can be made in lieu of flowers to Marie Curie Hospice at the service.

CLEMENTS
Lilian Margaret

Following a sudden but short illness, Lilian passed away peacefully, aged 90 years, at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend on 13th December 2019. Loved wife of Jack, mother of Jacky and Tony, mother-in-law to Clive and Joy. Adored grandmother and great-grandmother.

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare until the funeral service at 1pm Monday, 30th December 2019 at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made to Stoke Association, Ty Cenydd, Castle Street, Caerphilly, CF83 1NZ.

Acknowledgements

DAVIES
Raymond Alexander

Thank you to all that attended Ray's funeral on Monday, 2nd December 2019. Your support, messages and cards at this sad time are really appreciated.

Irene, Aly, Janice & Heatha.

HUNTER
Malcolm David

Valmai and family wish to express their sincere thanks to everyone for their support and cards during the last ten months of Malcolm's illness.

BROWNING
Kathleen Mary
(*née* McAuley)

To my Darling sister Kathleen.

Rest in Peace.

God Bless.

Patrick, Hilary, Kathryn & Mark.

In Memory

Craig Orchard
19/07/1984 - 25/12/2015

It's our fourth Christmas without you.

This year you'll be with Nan and John which makes Christmas even harder.

You were the greatest gift that money couldn't buy.

You're so wonderful to think of but so hard to live without.

Love you Always, Mum, Dad, Rhian, Bobo, and all your family and friends .xxx

In Memory

BIRD
Eric Osborne

4.4.1938 - 23.12. 2014

To the world you are one person,
but to one person you are the world.
Always in my heart and on my mind.
Love always, Judy.
xxxx

BLOSS
Vera and Michael

Another Christmas has come around without my darling wife and dear son.

When I think of Christmas past when all the family were together, I shed more tears, but I am so proud to have known and loved them.

Peter

Christmas Memory Wishes
to our dear grandson

Jordan Montgomery

All our love always,
Nan & Gramps Crout.
xxx

WILLIAMS
Karl

What we would give the world, if we could say Merry Christmas to Karl today.

To hear your voice, to see your smile, would be our dearest wish, this Christmas time.

Lots of love and kisses,

Mum, Dad, Kris, Gemma, Curtis and Lacey.

xxx

Also, Christmas wishes to Leighton Batt, and our family that has passed on.

xxx

Birthday Memories

Birthday Memories

JEFFERIES
Diane

28.12.44 - 12.5.17

All my life I will miss you
As the years come and go,
But in my heart you will live forever,
Because I love you so.

All my love, Derek xxx

Birthday Memories

HISCOCK
Lizzy

22-12-23 - 25-05-19

Wonderful memories dearer than gold of a mother whose worth can never be told.

As we whisper 'Happy Birthday' the tears begin to flow, as how much we love and miss you no one will ever know.

The first Christmas without you will be hard to bear but we pray to God that you are there, together with all those we have loved and lost.

Rest in Peace now Mama - Sandra & Keith and family.

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Christmas Greetings

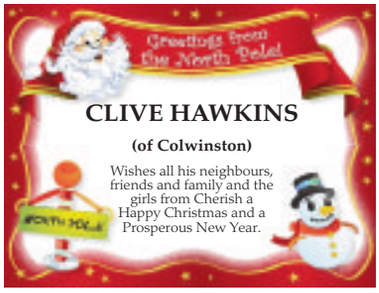
MARILYN HELLYAR

would like to thank all her family, friends, neighbours and fellow bowlers for their love and support through this difficult year.

Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Joyce Taylor

would like to send Seasons Greetings to family, friends and neighbours.



CLIVE HAWKINS

(of Colwinston)

Wishes all his neighbours, friends and family and the girls from Cherish a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Sheila Fifield

wishes all her family and friends a Very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

JOHNSON
Jeanette (Jean)

Jean and family would like to wish all the staff at College Fields Nursing Home a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and to thank them for their continued kindness and support to Mike and the family.

LILIAN GATT

would like to wish family, friends, neighbours and bowling buddies a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Christmas Greetings

Don & Rita

would like to wish family and friends a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

COLES
Jan, Jeff & Richard

wish all our family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Babs & John Marsh

would like to thank all our family, friends, neighbours and carers for all the help and care given to us both.

Merry Christmas to you all and hope you all have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Love & Best Wishes
Babs & John xxx

CLIFF ARMSTRONG

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to his family, friends and neighbours.

Leonor (Leo) Meredith

would like to wish their family, friends and neighbours a

Wonderful Christmas & a Happy New Year

Go to **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Birthdays

Don Goodway
Congratulations Don on your 90th Birthday
on 27th December 2019
With love from,
Glenys & Ron,
Jeanette & Mike and
Christine & Brian xxx

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Karate Club's presentation evening

VALE Karate (dojo at Barry Leisure Centre) held their winter presentation evening to congratulate members on recent successes.

The evening was a memorable occasion, with Barry Leisure Centre's main hall and the balcony overlooking, filled with cheering spectators as more than 80 young students who had progressed at the winter grading, were presented with their new belts and certificates.

All gradings took place in small groups in the dojo on the preceding Sunday, however it was felt that it would be fitting to bring all students together, and allow the whole club to celebrate together.

The evening was also a chance to congratulate the Vale Karate Squad who won 14 gold medals at the recent Welsh Karate League competition, once again topping the medal table; and to say 'well done' to the eight Vale members of the Karate Wales squad who recently returned from the WUKF European Championships for all ages in Denmark, where against all odds each of the eight found a place on the rostrum!

Six members were presented with their Dan grade diplomas.

Jayne Fisher and Ben Evans progressed to first Dan, Doru Grad to third Dan and three long serving Karate-ka, Ritchie Goodchild, Helen Young and Kee Wong were promoted to fourth Dan.

Vale Karate have a full-time dojo at Barry Leisure Centre and will be taking beginners from four years old in January. Call Rob on 07986 872953 for information or email robert@valekarate.com.

Barry and District Clubs League

THE latest results in the Barry and District Clubs leagues are as follows:

Crib Division 1, Cup 1st Round: Romilly Railway beat Moors Boys, Rhoose Social beat West End, Cadoxton Cons beat Wyndham Cons, Liberals bye.

Skittles division 1: Allsorts 6.5, Liberals A 0.5; Rhoosters 3, Slammers 4; Sea View Exiles 3, West End C 4; Barries Boys 5, Cambrian Flyers 2; Barry Town Fc 4, Rhoose Social A 3; Liberals C 5, West End D 2; Rhoose Social C 2, Rugby Club 5; King William XII 6, Rhoose Social B 1.

League points: Sea View Exiles 60.0, West End D 56.5, Rugby Club 50.5, King William XII 48.0, Rhoose Social A 48.0, Rhoose Social C 47.0, Barry Town Fc 46.5, Allsorts 44.5, Liberals C 43.5, Barries Boys 35.5, Slammers 35.0, West End C 34.0, Rhoosters 33.5, Rhoose Social B 27.5, Cambrian Flyers 26.0, Liberals A 22.0.

Snooker division 1: Cadoxton Cons B 3, Liberators 2; Wyndham Cons A 1, Savoy B 4; West End C 3, Penarth Cons A 2; Rhoose Social B 1, Rhoose Social C 4; Harbour B 1, Cadoxton Cons Z 4.

League points: West End C 44, Harbour B 40, Savoy B 37, Penarth Cons A 32, Cadoxton Cons Z 31, Cadoxton Cons B 29, Wyndham Cons A 28, Rhoose Social C 20, Rhoose Social B 16, Penarth Cons B 15, *Liberators 8.

Snooker division 2: Services Social B 2, Market Street C 3; Market Street A 4, Harbour A 1; Savoy C 1, West End A 4; Sully Sports A 4, Cadoxton Cons A 1; Market Street B 4, West End B 1.

League points: Market Street A 35, Market Street C 35, Savoy C 30, West End A 30, Services Social B 29, Harbour A 28, Market Street B 28, Wyndham Cons D 26, Cadoxton Cons A 25, West End B 23, Sully Sports A 21.

* = Points deducted. View all results and league tables at *www.barryleagues.co.uk.*

JW

News from Porthcawl Bridge Club

PORTHCAWL Bridge Club held a splendid Christmas party, catered by Jane Morgan, followed by a competition for the Barrie Robinson Salver.

Results: Saturday, November 23 – first – Dave Nicklin and Roger Draper; second – Dave Lea and Bill Turner. Thursday, November 28 – first – Keith Davison and Tony Haworth; second – Vida Halford and Glyn Williams. Saturday, November 30 – first equal – Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; Pat Roper and Tony Haworth. Thursday December 5 – Christmas Party; first – Dave Nicklin and Roger Draper; second - Chris Rawlings and Teresa Griffiths. Saturday, December 7 – first – Norma and David Newman; second – Trish Saunders and Janet Richards. Thursday, December 12 – First – Tony Haworth and Keith Davison; handicap (Christmas Pudding winners) – David Rance and Alwyn Hill. To contact the club, call our secretary – Trish – 01656 785794 TH

Public Notice

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012
Development that may affect a Conservation Area / Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2019/01318/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Application to remove condition No. 16 - Archaelogy - of 2016/01267/FUL Proposed development of the site for 2 new build, detached houses
Location:/Lleoliad: Station Terrace, East Aberthaw
Conservation Area:/Ardal Gadwraeth East Aberthaw

Conservation Area Consent / Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2019/01283/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Removal of existing garage. Construction of wall along rear boundary of property
Location:/Lleoliad: 1, Kymin Terrace, Penarth
Conservation Area:/Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth
Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2019/01339/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of single storey extension and replacement with a new extension that is partially single storey and partially two storey
Location:/Lleoliad: Lyndale, The Causeway, Llanblethian, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/Ardal Gadwraeth Llanblethian

Listed Building Consent / Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2019/01297/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Fix new slate plaques to the two entrances along the South Town Wall entrances through to Old Hall Gardens. Plaques are bilingual and read 'Old Hall Gardens'
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Hall Gardens, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II*
Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2019/01312/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Listed Building Consent for the residential conversion of the old rectory and coach house, demolition of out buildings and structures, and associated works including the construction of a new residential coach house, and parking
Location:/Lleoliad: The Old Rectory, 10-12, Old Port Road, Wenvoe
Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest / Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2019/01260/HYB
Proposal:/Cynnig: Hybrid planning comprising: full planning permission for the demolition of existing structures and for the construction of a new service road, building slab/apron and associated drainage; and outline planning permission for erection of up to 40,000 sqm GIA air-side operational employment facilities (Class B1 and/or Class B2 and/or Class B8), vehicle parking, servicing and all associatedbuilding and engineering works with all other matters reserved
Location:/Lleoliad: Land between Aston Martin Lagonda and taxiway echo (Keithrow), Bro Tathan Business Park, St. Athan

Application(s) with Environmental Statement / Cais (au) gyda Datganiad Amgylcheddol

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Garwa Quarry, St. Mary Hill, Ruthin.

I give notice that Tarmac Trading Ltd is applying to he Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Variation of Condition 3 - Time Limit

31/12/2019 - Extraction of carbvoniferous limestone, Garwa Farm (Ref 382(Z)1341),09/06/1070, as amended by Deepening of quarry

from 135ft. to 90ft. AOD (Ref 1048), as amended by revised working scheme and end date Condition 3 (Ref. 97/00796/FUL) .

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public

may obtain copies of the environmental statement, at a charge, from Mr. Graham Jenkins, SLR Consulting Limited, Fulmar House, Beignon Close,

Ocean Way, Cardiff. CF24 5PB so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

• The application.
• The plans.
• The environmental statement.
• Other documents submitted with the

application. at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 9 January, 2020.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 9 January 2020 quoting reference 2019/01337/FUL.

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8

Datblygiad arfaethedig yn Garwa Quarry, St. Mary Hill, Ruthin

Hysbysir trwy hyn Tarmac Trading Ltd n gwneud cais i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am Ganiatâd Cynllunio ar gyfe Variation of Condition 3 - Time Limit 31/12/2019 - Extraction of carbvoniferous limestone, Garwa Farm (Ref 382(Z)1341), 09/06/1070, as amended by Deepening of quarry from 135ft. to 90ft. AOD (Ref 1048), as amended by revised working scheme and end date Condition 3 (Ref. 97/00796/FUL)

Cafodd y cynnig ei gyflwyno gyda datganiad amgylcheddol sydd ar gael i'w ddarllen yn y cyfeiriad isod. Gall Aelodau'r cyhoedd gael copïau o'r datganiad amgylcheddol, am dâl, gan Mr Graham Jenkins, SLR Consulting Limited, Fulmar House, Beignon Close, Ocean Way, Caerdydd. CF24 5PB cyhyd â bod stociau'n para.

Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd hefyd ddarllen copïau o'r:

• cais;
• cynlluniau;
• datganiad amgylcheddol;
• dogfennau eraill a gyflwynwyd gyda'r cais,

yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 9 January, 2020.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 9 January 2020 an ddyfynnu'r cyfeirnod 2019/01337/FUL.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Ruthin Quarry, St. Mary Hill, Ruthin, Pencoed.

I give notice that Tarmac Trading Ltd is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Review of Old Mining Permissions - Resumption of operations and extension of time limit.

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement, at a charge, from Mr. Graham Jenkins, SLR Consulting Limited, Fulmar House, Beignon Close,

Ocean Way, Cardiff. CF24 5PB so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

• The application.
• The plans.
• The environmental statement.
• Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 9 January, 2020.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 9 January 2020 quoting reference 2019/01340/FUL.

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via
http://vogonline.planningregister.co.uk/

Dated / Dyddiedig: 19 December, 2019

V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager, Regeneration and Planning,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry.
CF63 4RT

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8

Datblygiad arfaethedig yn Ruthin Quarry, St. Mary Hill, Ruthin, Pencoed

Hysbysir trwy hyn Tarmac Trading Ltd n gwneud cais i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am Ganiatâd Cynllunio ar gyfe Review of Old Mining Permissions - Resumption of operations and extension of time limit.

Cafodd y cynnig ei gyflwyno gyda datganiad amgylcheddol sydd ar gael i'w ddarllen yn y cyfeiriad isod. Gall Aelodau'r cyhoedd gael copïau o'r datganiad amgylcheddol, am dâl, gan Mr Graham Jenkins, SLR Consulting Limited, Fulmar House, Beignon Close, Ocean Way, Caerdydd. CF24 5PB cyhyd â bod stociau'n para.

Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd hefyd ddarllen copïau o'r:

• cais;
• cynlluniau;
• datganiad amgylcheddol;
• dogfennau eraill a gyflwynwyd gyda'r cais,

yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 9 January, 2020.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 9 January 2020 an ddyfynnu'r cyfeirnod 2019/01340/FUL.

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy
http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/

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Villagers fight to the end to gain a bonus point

THE 'Villagers' of Dinas Powys welcomed league leaders Treorchy to the Common witha strong wind blowing along the pitch – experienced observers amongst the home crowd considered it to be worth 15 points .

The home team played with the wind behind them in the first half, and opened the scoring within a minute as a break by right wing Jim Wiltshire with an inside pass to Adam Williams saw the centre cross for a try, converted by outside half Ben White.

For the remainder of the first half, Treorchy were under pressure but the home side squandered a couple of scoring chances with the tryline apparently at their mercy. The defence of the 'Zebras' was resolute and well-drilled and the home side were only able to add one further penalty from three attempts to their tally.

To add to their difficulties, on the stroke of half time the visitors kicked a penalty for a 10–3 scoreline.

The Villagers now faced playing into the elements for the second half and Treorchy scored a within a minute of the restart in the right hand corner. The difficult conversion was missed and it was now 10–8.

The game now was being played in the home half of the pitch and resolute tackling by back row Corey Imperatto, Fin Davies and Josh Dunleavy prevented a further score. Time and time again, the home flankers were thwarting the Zebras at the breakdown and it took a further 20 minutes for the visitors to eventually convert a penalty and to take the narrowest of leads by 10–11.

A further penalty was soon added and at 10–14 the home side were on the ropes.The Zebras scored their second try with 10 minutes remaining and with the conversion added the Villagers trailed by 10–21. The home side went in search of a losing bonus point and strong carries by Imperatto , centre Ciaran Driscoll and full-back Sam Middlemiss presented the home side with a rare visit into the opposition half.

With the sands of time running out, centre Adam Williams drew three defenders to stop his powerful burst and threw an inside pass that was taken at full speed by Dunleavy who crashed over in the left corner. The difficult conversion into the wind was added by White and the game finished 21–18.

The emotions were mixed , a last-gasp try to gain a losing bonus point countered by the disappointment of failing to take their first half chances . New head coach Lee Highgate will be aware that key players were unavailable for this game but will demand a more clinical approach for the visit to Barry RfC on December 28 for the next league fixture.

HJ

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg are Welsh Gymnastic Champions

AT a recent Novice Gymnastics Competition, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg teams were crowned Welsh Champions.

Earlier this month, several teams from the Barry school represented Cardiff and Vale in the Welsh Novice Gymnastic Final Competition. They were successful, as four teams won the gold medal to become champions. The year-7 boys, year-7 girls, the years 8-9 boys and years 8-9 girls teams all won the first prize.

A school spokeswoman said: "What an achievement! Gymnastics must be in the blood of Bro Morgannwg pupils."

The competition, held in Cardiff, was for novice gymnastic teams. Mr Rhys Beynon, PE teacher and coach of the gymnastics team said, 'I'm very proud of this group of young people who have worked extremely hard over recent months.

"The commitment that they have showed towards their sport has been exceptional, and this was evident on the day of the competition. These pupils have grasped the opportunity, have practiced every morning with the team, and have been rewarded with the Welsh Champions title. I'm so proud!"

The school have experienced success at the competition in the past, which goes to show the array of talents at the school, and their clear talent in gymnastics! Llongyfarchiadau i chi gyd!

HL

Tondu Titans triumph as three-quarters create the crucial score

RECENTLY, the Tondu Ladies travelled to Fleur De Lys to conclude the first half of the WRU Womens Merit League.

Playing their 10th game of the season, both teams were determined to get a win. Both teams played a tough physical game.

The home side were quick off the mark with a strong run, putting Tondu back in their own half. Fleur attacked by rushing their strong forwards at the defensive line.

They were stopped by Tondu's flankers, Jade Evans and Abby Bevan, who played out of their skin throughout the match, hardly missing a tackle. This eventually lead to turnover ball and Tondu were back on the attack.

The teams were equally matched, concluding the first half of the game with a 0-0 score. It was clear to see that the defences were very strong.

The second half kicked off with a fast attack from Tondu making a break. With a realign from the backs and with quick hands they gave full back Laura Warren the first and only try of the match; no conversion was made.

Fleur De Lys ended the second half with good possession and the last plays were full of attacking intent, but they were held by the solid defence of Tondu.

At the final whistle, Tondu secured their win of 5-0.

Ending their first half of the season with only three out of 10 losses, the developing Tondu Ladies look forward to the new year ahead. They now take their well-deserved Christmas break and will be back for the second half of the Merit League next year.

Forward of the match: Lowri Radcliffe No 8; back of the match: outside centre Jade Lines.

Final score: Fleur-De-Lys 0, Tondu Titans 5.

JL

Latest results from Barry Ladies Skittles League

THE results in the Barry Ladies Skittles League for December 9 are as follows.

Division 1: Cigar Ladies 267 (A McCarthy 29) v Bakers Dozen 279 (R Heiston 28); Barry Stars 259 (C Lambeth 30) v Allsorts 261 (C Newell 26); Pila Pala 265 (V Evans 27) v Special Angels 227 (C Thomas and L Mountford 23); LaBells 320 (B Williams 25) v Coppers 322 (S Curtis 35); Space Finders 320 (L Jones and M Rees 31) v Cadoxton Con Fillies 330 (K Bennett 33).

Division 2: Breakaways 240 (C Skinner 26) v Persuaders 255 (C Thomas and K Kemp 29); Colcot Ladies 239 (H Edwards 28) v Rhoose Starlights 275 (G Drake 31); Rugby Triers 232 (N Williams 25) v Rollers Coasters 192 (S Thomas 20); Red Admiral 236 (S Hayes 27) v Fallen Angels 244 (V Watkins 25); Etcetera 253 (C Stillman 31) v Witchill Weebies 205 (J Jenkins 26); Clickies 207 (K Watts 27) v Bobby's Girls 198 (N Toogood 25).

Division 3: Hillbillies 318 (M Brinkworth and E Anzani 31) v Livin-on-a-Spare 306 (S Farmer 31); Dolly Mixtures 229 (C Abbott 25) v Witchill Widows 241 (L Spyrou and D Bushen 24); Westenders 257 (S Evans 27) v Vixens 254 (M Marks 32); Liberals 202 (R Keene 26) v Off-the -Rails 242 (L Mackcormack 32); Airways Angels 244 (E Lewis and A Sales 25) v Boozy Birds 234 (C Clements 25).

Division 4: Westender Rollers 154 (R Scott 21) v Withches 220 (V Walters 24); Rebels 213 (M Russell 28) v Bimbo's 211 (M Winder 28); Down Town Girls 222 (L Wyatt 23) v Twikighta 218 (C Thomas 28); Nite Outers 202 (K Blackmore 25) v Optimists 214 (Holland 27).

HB

Bridgend Bridge Club latest news

BRIDGEND Bridge Club member Tony Disley, with partner Adrian Thomas, won the recent National Graded Masters Championship at the head of a very strong field.

The latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows.

The Presidents Cup competition was played on Friday, December 6: Equal first, Bill Turner and Gill Wybrow, and Irene Tomas and David Newman; third, Tony Disley and John Moore.

On Thursday, December 12: Equal first, Dave Reed and Jim Hume, and David Newman and Joan Ralph; equal third, Eileen Mahoney and Jeff Barnett, and Stuart Davies and Dilys Bowser.

The winners on handicap were David Newman and Joan Ralph.

On Friday, December 13: Equal first, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams, and Tony Disley and Steve Burgoyne; third, Emer Disley and Bill Turner.

The winners on handicap were Vida Halford and Glyn Williams.

GJ

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15 65 BMW 430 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Gran Coupe Automatic, m sport plus pack, sat nav, blue, full leather **£14995**

17 67 BMW 520 D XDrive SE 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather **£18995**

15 65 BMW X1 2.0 D XDrive X-Line 5dr Automatic (190bhp), sat nav, 18"alloys, 32k, bronze, full leather **£16995**

16 16 BMW X1 XDrive 25d M Sport 5dr Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, pdc, 19k, blue, full leather **£19995**

15 65 BMW X3 2.0 D XDrive X-Line 5dr automatic, head up display, reverse camera, sat nav, blue, full leather **£16495**

16 16 BMW X3 2.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 19"alloys, black, full leather **£18795**

15 15 BMW X4 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, 20"Alloys, head up display, reverse camera, 20k, white, full leather **£22495**

15 65 BMW X5 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, reverse camera, carbon black, full leather **£26995**

16 66 BMW X5 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, m sport plus pack, 30k, grey, full leather **£29995**

17 67 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI 180 ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 20k, silver **£17495**

19 19 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI Premium 5dr Automatic 4WD (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty April 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 11k, silver, full leather **£29995**

16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRD Premium 4WD 5dr Automatic, Hyundai warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 18k, grey, full leather **£16495**

16 66 INFINITI Q30 2.2D Premium Tech 5dr DCT automatic 4WD, panoramic roof, 18"alloys, 19k, grey, full leather **£15995**

18 68 JAGUAR F-PACE 2.0 D R-Sport 5dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 7k, black, full leather **£29995**

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.0 MultiJet Limited 5dr 4WD, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 13k, grey, full leather **£16495**

16 16 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 Multijet 200 Night Eagle 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, 23k, choice, full leather **£14795**

16 16 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 CRD MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 41k, met grey, full leather **£14495**

16 66 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 M-Jet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 23k, blue, full leather **£15995**

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 26k, black **£16995**

18 18 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 CRD MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 12k, choice, full leather **£17495**

16 66 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 MultiJet Limited 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather **£9495**

15 65 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRD KX3 5dr Automatic AWD (7-Seater), Kia warranty Dec 2022, pan roof, reverse camera, 21k, white, full leather **£18995**

18 18 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRDI KX-3 5dr (7-Seater), KIA warranty June 2025, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 8k, black, full leather **£25995**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T-GDI GT-Line 5dr Automatic AWD, Kia warranty Nov 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, choice, full leather **£14495**

18 68 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6T GDI ISG 4 5dr DCT Automatic 4WD, KIA Warranty until October 2025, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 9k, blue, full leather **£22495**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-3 5dr (Facelift), Kia warranty June 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 41k,met blue, full leather **£13295**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-3 5dr (Facelift), sat nav, grey, full leather **£13995**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI First Edition 5dr Automatic 4WD, Kia warranty Sept 2023, sat nav, sunroof, 24k, white, full leather **£17495**

17 17 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 AWD 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, choice, full leather **£14495**

16 16 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.0 TD4 HSE Black 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, adaptive cruise, blue, full leather **£22995**

16 16 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.0 SDV6 (306) HSE 5dr Automatic 4x4, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, heated and cooled seats, black, full leather **£30995**

14 64 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER 3.0 TDV6 Autobiography 5dr Automatic, electric side steps, pan roof, TV, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather **£35995**

13 63 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2 SD4 Pure 5dr, pan roof, tech pack, sat nav, white, full leather **£14495**

14 64 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2 SD4 Pure 5dr 4WD, 18"alloys, heated seats, grey, full leather **£15495**

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE Tech 5dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, 21k, blue, full leather **£21995**

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 HSE DYNAMIC 5dr Automatic, sat nav, 24K, met grey, full leather **£24995**

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE TECH 3dr Automatic, sat nav, black, full leather **£20995**

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 Autobiography 5dr Automatic, sat nav, pan roof, 20"alloys, reverse camera, grey, full leather **£26995**

17 17 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 5.0 V8 Autobiography Dynamic 5dr Automatic, Land Rover warranty June 2020, stealth pack, sat nav, pan roof, privacy glass, 9k, white, full leather **£53995**

16 66 MERCEDES C43 4Matic Premium 2dr Coupe Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 22k, white, half-leather **£29995**

16 66 MERCEDES GLC220d 4Matic Sport Premium 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, grey, full leather **£21995**

18 68 MERCEDES GLC220 D 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, pan roof, night pack, 20"alloys, sat nav, reverse camera, 4k, choice **£27995**

18 18 MERCEDES GLE250 D 4Matic AMG Night Edition 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 10k, black, full leather **£32995**

18 18 MERCEDES GLS350 D 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic 7-Seater, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, night pack, Harman kardon, sat nav, pan roof, 13k, white, full leather **£44995**

16 66 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 ALL4 3dr Automatic, media pack – sat nav, pepper pack, tlc pack, 7k, silver, half-leather **£12495**

13 63 MITSUBISHI ASX1.8 4 5dr 4WD, pan roof, sat nav, 44k, black, full leather **£7995**

16 66 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr 4wd (7-Seater), pan roof, 26k, grey **£13495**

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi 150 4Motion R Line 5dr, pan roof, heated seats, 20"alloys, 32k, grey **£20995**

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi 150 4Motion SE Nav 5dr, sat nav, 18"alloys, cruise, black **£14995**

18 68 VOLVO XC60 2.0 D4 R-Design 5dr Automatic AWD, Volvo warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, 13k, met red, half-leather **£26995**

16 16 VOLVO XC90 2.0 D5 R-Design 5dr AWD Geartronic Automatic (7-Seater), 20"Alloys, sat nav, grey **£27995**

PICK-UPS + VAT

16 16 NISSAN NAVARA 2.3 DCI 190 Acenta Double Cab Pickup Automatic 4WD, privacy glass, 33k, grey ..... **£12995+VAT**

19 19 TOYOTA HILUX Invincible X Ltd Ed D/Cab P/Up 2.4 D-4D Auto 3.5t, Toyota warranty April 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 4k, grey, full leather **£29995**

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15 65 ABARTH 595 1.4 T-Jet 140 Trofeo 3dr, air-con, 17"alloys, usb, aux, 28k, black **£7995**

17 67 ALFA ROMEO GIULIETTA 1.4 TB 5dr, Alfa warranty Oct 2020, air-con, 17"alloys, dab, 8k, white **£10495**

17 66 ALFA ROMEO MITO 0.9 TB TwinAir 3dr, Alfa warranty Feb 2020, air-con, Bluetooth, dab, 7k, red **£7995**

16 66 AUDI A1 1.6 TDI SE 5dr, dab, privacy glass, red, full leather **£8995**

16 16 AUDI A4 AVANT 2.0 TDI S-Line Estate, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, dab, 33k, grey **£14995**

18 67 AUDI A5 2.0 TDI Ultra Sport 5dr, Audi warranty March 2021, sat nav, black alloys, heated seats, blue, full leather **£19495**

17 67 BMW 320 D M Sport Shadow Edition 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, harman kardon, heated seats, blue, full leather **£16495**

16 66 BMW 330e M Sport 4dr Step Automatic, M sport plus pack, sat nav, 19"alloys, 28k, estoril blue, full leather **£19995**

15 15 BMW 420 D SE 190 2dr Coupe Automatic, sat nav, 18"m sport alloys, black, full leather **£12995**

17 67 BMW 420 D Sport Gran Coupe 5dr (190bhp), BMW warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 20k, black, full leather **£16995**

17 67 BMW 420d [190] M Sport 5dr Gran Coupe Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, 19"alloys, pro media, m sport + pack, Harman kardon, choice, full leather **£18995**

15 65 BMW 520 D [190] SE Estate Automatic, sat nav, privacy glass, white, full oyster leather **£13995**

16 66 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather **£14995**

16 66 BMW X1 2.0 SDrive D M Sport 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, black, full leather **£13995**

17 17 CITROEN C4 CACTUS 1.2 PureTech Flair 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 15k, silver **£8795**

16 16 DS DS3 1.2 Puretech Elegance 3dr, cruise, dab, 17"black alloys, 17k, yellow **£6995**

15 65 FIAT 500 1.2 Cult 3dr, pan roof, 23k, green, full leather **£5995**

17 17 FIAT 500X 1.6 E-Torq Pop Star 5dr, sat nav, bluetooth, cruise, 16k, black **£9495**

13 13 FORD FIESTA 1.6 Zetec 5dr Powershift Automatic, city pack, alloys, white **£4995**

16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 140 ST-Line Navigation 5dr, Ford warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, dab, 7k, black **£10495**

19 69 FORD FOCUS 1.5 EcoBoost 182 ST-Line X 5dr, Ford warranty Oct 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, only 311 miles in white, half-leather **£19995**

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Titanium X Navigation 5dr Powershift Automatic, Ford warranty Jan 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 24k, orange **£11995**

17 17 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI 120 Zetec Edition 5dr, Ford warranty Aril 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, choice **£8495**

14 14 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI 115 Navigator 5dr, appearance pack, sat nav, privacy glass, red **£6795**

15 15 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI 150 Titanium 5dr, appearance pack, 17"alloys, 29k, red, half-leather **£9995**

17 66 FORD S-MAX 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr (7-Seater), Ford warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise,34k, met red **£14995**

16 66 FORD MONDEO 1.5 TDCI Econetic Zetec 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, black **£8995**

16 65 FORD MUSTANG 5.0 V8 GT 2dr Coupe, sat nav, xenons, 19"alloys, 13k, red, full leather **£24995**

16 16 HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRDI BlueDrive Premium 5dr, Hyundai warranty June 2021, sat nav, 27k, white, full leather **£9495**

16 66 HYUNDAI i40 1.7 CRDi Blue Drive Premium 4dr, Hyundai warranty Nov 2021, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 30k, silver, full leather **£11795**

19 69 HYUNDAI KONA 1.6 150kw GDI Hybrid Premium SE 5dr Automatic, Hyundai warranty Oct 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, only 464 miles in orange **£22995**

16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRD BlueDrive SE Nav 5dr, Hyundai warranty March 2022, sat nav, heated seats, reverse camera, 28k, black **£12495**

17 67 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 GDI Blue Drive S 5dr, Hyundai warranty Dec 2022, air-con, Bluetooth, dab, 10k, blue **£12495**

14 14 JAGUAR F-TYPE 3.0 Supercharged V6 S 2dr Coupe Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 23k, white, full leather **£27995**

16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D R-Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, black alloys, privacy glass, Bluetooth, 36k, white, full leather **£17495**

18 18 JEEP COMPASS 1.4 Multiair 140 Limited 5dr, Jeep warranty April 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 12k, silver, full leather **£18495**

17 67 JEEP RENEGADE 1.6 Multijet Night Eagle II 5dr, Jeep warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, privacy glass, cruise, 29k, white **£12495**

18 68 KIA CEED 1.4 T GDI ISG Blue Edition 5dr, Kia warranty Dec 2025, sat nav, reverse camera, 8k, blue **£15795**

16 66 KIA NIRO 1.6 GDI Hybrid 2 5dr DCT Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 28k, choice **£15995**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRD ISG 2 5dr, Kia warranty Feb 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 20k, choice **£12495**

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 5dr, heated seats, 18"alloys, 37k, blue, full leather **£17995**

17 67 LEXUS IS300h Advance 4dr CVT Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 17"alloys, cruise, grey, full leather **£17495**

18 68 MAZDA 3 2.2 D SPORT Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty Sept 2021, sat nav, headup display, reverse camera, black, full leather **£14995**

10 10 MAZDA MX-5 1.8 I 20th Anniversary Convertible, CD player, air-con, white **£4995**

16 66 MERCEDES A180 D AMG Line 5dr, xenons, cruise, 18"alloys, grey **£12995**

18 68 MERCEDES A180 D AMG Line 5dr Automatic (Facelift), Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, dab, 15k, white, half-leather **£19795**

18 18 MERCEDES A200 D Sport Executive 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty March 2021, sat nav, usb, reverse camera, 16k, silver **£15995**

18 18 MERCEDES C200 Sport Premium 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty May 2021, pan roof, sat nav, heated seats, 15k, choice, full leather **£19495**

18 18 MERCEDES C220 D AMG Line 2dr Coupe Automatic, Mercedes Benz warranty until July 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver, full leather **£23995**

15 65 MERCEDES C350e Sport Premium Plus 4dr Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 41k, silver, full leather **£17995**

17 67 MERCEDES CLA220 D AMG Line 5dr Estate Tip Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, privacy glass, cruise, red, half-leather **£17495**

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 13k, choice, half-leather **£20495**

17 17 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, choice, half-leather **£22995**

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, xenons, 6k, choice **£19995**

18 68 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Convertible 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, 20"alloys, reverse camera, 2k, silver **£28995**

16 66 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, Mini warranty Dec 2019, air-con, Bluetooth, aux, usb, 25k, white **£8795**

18 68 MINI COOPER 2.0 S II 5dr, Mini warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, apple car play, privacy glass, 15k, black **£13295**

16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 D 6dr, sat nav, heated seats, blue, half-leather **£11495**

16 66 MINI COUNTRYMAN 2.0 S D 5dr, chilli pack, heated seats, 18"alloys, 32k, blue **£11995**

16 66 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI N-CONNECTA 5 D, sat nav, reverse camera, choice **£8995**

16 66 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI 130 N-Connecta 5dr CVT Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, blue **£11495**

16 66 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Connecta 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, choice **£10495**

17 67 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr Xtronic Automaic (7-Seater), Nissan warranty Oct 2020, pan roof, cruise, 9k, blue **£14995**

16 66 PEUGEOT 108 1.0 Active 5dr, air-con, cruise, aux, 32k, choice ..**£4995**

18 18 PEUGEOT 308 1.2 Pure Tech 130 GT Line 5dr, Peugeot warranty May 2021, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 22k, blue **£10995**

17 17 PEUGEOT 3008 2.0 BlueHDI 150 GT-Line 5dr, Peugeot warranty June 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 30k, blue **£16995**

17 17 RENAULT CLIO 0.9 TCE 90 Dynamique S Nav 5dr (facelift), Renault warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, 11k, blue **£8995**

15 65 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Nav 5dr, sat nav, 19"alloys, pdc, choice **£9295**

16 66 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI SIGNATURE NAV 5dr, sat nav, white, full black leather **£9495**

16 66 SSANGYONG TIVOLI XLV 1.6 D ELX 5dr, Ssangyong warranty Dec 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 19k, white, full leather **£9995**

17 67 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 20k, silver, full leather **£9795**

16 66 VW GOLF 1.6 TDI 110 Match Edition 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, blue **£9995**

17 67 VW PASSAT 1.4 TSI GTE Estate DSG Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, black, half-leather **£18495**

16 66 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 TDi BlueMotion Tech GT 3dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, 18"black alloys, dab, grey, half-leather **£13995**

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi 150 R Line 5dr, pan roof, 20"alloys, sat nav, grey.. ..... **£16995**

16 16 VOLVO V40 2.0 T2 R-Design 5dr, cruise, 17"alloys, 33k, blue ...**£9995**

19 19 VOLVO V40 1.5 T3 R-Design Edition 5dr Automatic, Volvo warranty April 2022, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, only 730 miles in black, full leather **£18995**

18 68 VOLVO V60 2.0 D4 (190) Momentum Estate Automatic, Volvo warranty Dec 2021, sat nav, heated seats, 10k, black **£21495**

15 65 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, alloys, usb, dab, 23k, choice

£5495 NO BUYERS FEES

19 19 HYUNDAI i30 2.0 T GDI N Performance 5dr, Hyundai warranty April 2024, sat nav, reverse camera,

£21995 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 JEEP RENEGADE 1.6 E-torQ Dawn Of Justice 5dr, sat nav, cruise, black alloys, black

£8995 NO BUYERS FEES

15 65 BMW 520 DSE 4dr Automatic, electric glass sunroof, privacy glass, sat nav, white, full leather

£12795 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 MERCEDES E350 D AMG Line Premium 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes July 2021, pan roof,

£27495 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 BMW 118 D Sport 5dr, sat nav, 17"alloys, comfort pack, 30k, black

£11495 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 3dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, heated seats, 27k, grey, full leather

£16995 NO BUYERS FEES

14 64 MERCEDES E250 CDI AMG Line Premium Plus 4dr 7G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera,

£14995 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 MERCEDES A180 D Sport Executive 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, sat nav, cruise, dab, 9k,

£18495 NO BUYERS FEES

13 13 BMW 118 D Sport Plus Edition 2dr Convertible, heated seats, 18"alloys, grey, full leather

£7495 NO BUYERS FEES

18 68 MERCEDES C300 AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2021, sat nav,

£27995 NO BUYERS FEES

19 68 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 BOSE Personal Edition 5dr, Nissan warranty Feb 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k,

£10995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI Blue Motion Tech GTI 5dr Automatic (220bhp), VW warranty March 2020, sat nav,

£17995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 67 Mercedes E220 D AMG LINE 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sep 2020, Sat Nav, Xenons, 6K, Choice

£19995 NO BUYERS FEES

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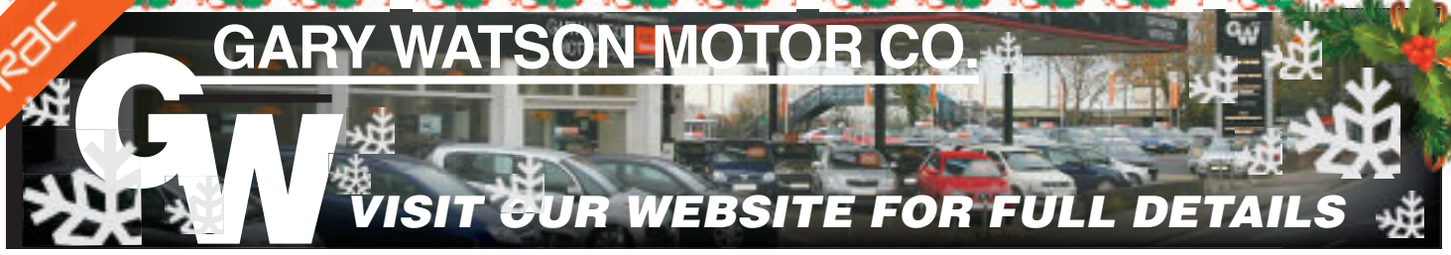

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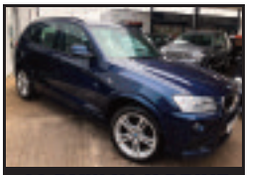

63 BMW X3 X-DRIVE 2.0 M-SPORT AUTO
In met blue with cream leather, 38,000 miles
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64 RANGE ROVER 3.0 Diesel HSE Auto white with black roof, 49,000 miles, too many extras to list, fantastic value **£32,995**
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15 VOLKSWAGEN TOUREG V6 R-Line 3.0 TDi Auto In pure white, 61,000 miles, FSH, Pan sunroof, leather heated seats/steering wheel **£18,795**
16 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER P Hev GX 4H 2.0cc petrol/electric hybrid, heated leather seats, sat nav, FSH, free road tax **£17,495**
07 JAGUAR XKR 4.2 CONVERTIBLE in metallic black with black leather, 51,000 miles **£16,995**
63 BMW X3 X-Drive 2.0D M-Sport Auto In met blue with cream leather, 38,000 miles **£15,995**
15 MERCEDES E220 AMG line 2.1D Auto in cavansite blue, 28,000 miles, leather heated seats, sat nav etc **£15,495**
63 JAGUAR XF 3.0TDv6 Portfol Automatic Estate In met black, 55,000 miles, high spec **£14,995**
64 BMW 520D M-SPORT Auto in white with black leather, 70,000 miles, sat nav etc **£12,995**
13 LAND ROVER FREELANDER XS 2.2D SD4 Auto in orkney grey, 48,000 miles, black heated leather seats, sat nav, FSH **£11,995**
63 BMW320D X DRIVE M SPORT In black, 54,000 miles, heated leather seats, FSH **£11,995**
15 KIA OPTIMA 3 ECO-DYNA 1.7 CRDi 5dr in silver, 26,000 miles, pan sunroof, huge spec **£10,995**
12 LEXUS CT 200H SE-L Automatic Hybrid Cewrulean blue with cream leather, 45,000 miles, 1 owner .....**Reduced to £9,995**
64 MERCEDES B180 SE CDi 1461cc Automatic In met grey, 39,000 miles, leather, sat nav, Reverse cam **£9,995**
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64 BMW 118 Diesel M-Sport 5dr in estoric blue, 67,000 miles, £30 road tax, nice example **£9,495**
64 VW PASSAT CC Bluemotion Technology 2.0 TDi Coupe in silver, 37,000 miles, sat nav etc **£9,695**
14 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDi Elegance CR (170) in Cappuccino beige, 48,000 miles, Sat Nav, leather seats .....**Reduced £8,995**
17 FORD B-MAX 1.5 Diesel Zetec Navigator in black, 16,000 miles, practical with low running costs **£8,995**
15 VW JETTA 1.4TSi SE in met blue, 25,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,995**
13 VW GOLF 2.0 TDi GT 3dr in white, 78,000 miles with Sat Nav, fantastic MPG, £20 road tax .....**Reduced to £7,995**
66 SKODA RAPID 1.2 SE SPACEBACK Automatic In race blue, 13,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,695**
14 KIA CARENS 2 1.7 CRDi Automatic 7 seater In blue, 43,000 miles, bluetooth, PS **£8,695**
14 MERCEDES B180 SE 1.5 CDi Eco In black, 35,000 miles, low running costs.....**£8,695**
65 HYUNDAI i20 PREMIUM MPT 1.4 Automatic in white, 41,000 miles, nice example .....**Reduced to £7,995**
65 MAZDA 6 SE-L NAV 2.2 Diesel Estate in soul red, 69,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,495**
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14 BMW 120D SE 5-Dr In Red, 60,000 miles, fantastic MPG + low road tax .....**Reduced to £7,495**

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On and Off the Turf with Brian Lee

THERE were more winners for Vale trainers Evan Williams and Tim Vaughan last week.

On Thursday, December 12, Evan Williams's *Annsam*, ridden by stable jockey Adam Wedge, landed the handicap hurdle at odds of 14-1 when beating *Le Ligerien* by a length.

Later in the day, Debra Hamer's *Layerthorpe,* who went off the 13-8 favourite, won the three miles handicap hurdle under Welsh rider Ben Jones when getting home by a short head from *We'llcwhathappens*.

The following day, Jones was successful on *Doc Penfro* at Bangor while at Doncaster, Tim Vaughan's top weighted *Copper Gone West* ridden by the talented Charlie Price, took the mares' handicap hurdle by one-and-a-half lengths from *Coded Message*.

Evan Williams says that his grey *Silver Streak* is all set to run in the Ladbrokes Christmas Hurdle at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. After finishing third in the recent Fighting Fifth Hurdle, Evan said of his star performer: "We'll keep an eye on the Christmas Hurdle now.''

BRIAN LEE

The latest news from Barry Chess Club

AS we head inexorably to Christmas chess matches still continue.

This week saw the final matches in division 3 this year, and also a match for the Stauntons in division 4

The Quarks entertained the Pontypridd Kites in the third division. We were able to put out a strong team against one of the teams struggling to avoid relegation. Wins for Dave Parsons, Ken Hannah, John Stephenson, plus a bye, and a draw for Ian Abraham, gave the Quarks our biggest victory so far, earning 4.5 points.

This victory pushes the Quarks above the Barry Gambits into fourth place just 1.5 points behind Rhondda A in the final promotion spot. The Gambits are just a point further back in fifth place. Both of our teams seem to be safe from relegation but promotion remains a slim possibility.

In division 4 the Stauntons travelled to Whitchurch to play the North Cardiff Penguins. The Penguins started the season poorly, losing their first two matches without earning a point. Since then they have won three consecutive matches and now sit in mid table.

The Stauntons managed a good win for Dave Mahoney on board 1 and a maiden victory for Steve Maguire on board 5. Unfortunately we couldn't replicate this form on the middle boards, losing the match 3 - 2.

The Stauntons remain at the bottom of the table but our results have improved and a match win can't be far away.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7:30 pm most Mondays at the West End Club. St. Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but it is better to contact one of the club members through the website first so that we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival. For more details visit our website at http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com

PJ

Penarth Bridge Club results

RESULTS at Penarth Bridge Club last week were:

Tuesday, 1st, Nalini and Tim Barbsy (69.4%); 2nd Anne Williams and Avril Collins (56.9) ; 3rd Cyrus and Carmel Hughes (54.9).

Friday, 1st N/S Joy Secular & Mike Downey (62.1); 2nd Rod Hudson & Carol Cochlin (55); 3rd Avril Collins & Vivian Liles (47.9); 1st E/W Tony Campbell & Trish Tracey (53.8); 2nd equal Pat Sullivan & Hugh Simmonds (57.9) and Peter Millar and Mike Best. The club meets Tuesdays and Fridays at Trinity Church Hall, CF64 3EN.

A good win for 'ring rusty' Bridgend Athletic Youth over Aberavon Green Stars

BRIDGEND Athletic Youth maintained their unbeaten record in the league with another bonus point 26–7 victory over a plucky Aberavon Green Stars team.

The win took them to the top of their Ospreys Division C East league.

From the kickoff the Ath dominated every aspect of the game, but they looked ring rusty and spurned numerous chances. The one shining light in the first half was the performance of Joe Watts at full back, who constantly looked a threat in attack and was a giant in defence.

It took a while to get going but eventually, outside half Rhys Williams took the ball to the line, drawing the defence before feeding centre Danny Osarigie who skipped through for the first try, converted by Williams.

It wasn't long before Osarigie again crossed the line following a great run by wing Tom Davies, Williams adding the conversion.

A short while later Osarigie fed fellow centre Tom Florence, who powered over the line, supported by Osarigie and Watts, again converted by Williams. This gave the Athletic a 21–0 half time lead.

The second half started with the best try of the day. Green Stars attempted to run the ball from the 22 but second row Morgan Bennett produced a thunderous tackle which caused the ball to be dislodged.

Scrum half Tom Lewis fed Tom Florence who straightened the line before feeding Tom Reed, who did the same before feeding Joe Watts, who flew over in the corner, unfortunately injuring his arm on the process. The conversion was narrowly missed by Williams.

The Ath continued to dominate with centre Tom Reed looking a massive threat and flankers Sion Vigus and Ryan Neagle absolutely outstanding in every aspect. Late on, the Green Stars' outside half intercepted a potential try-scoring pass from Tom Florence to race away to score a consolation try under the posts, which he converted himself.

The Ath continued to dominate the game however, spurning numerous chances and neither team scored any more points, with the Athletic running out 26–7 victors.

At the end of the day it was another bonus point win. However, the Ath will have to pick up their game and be far more clinical in the coming weeks if they wish to finish the league as champions. A positive for the coaches is that the boys still managed a bonus point win, despite not playing anywhere near their best.

AB

Evan is named trainer of the year at season-ending event

On and Off the Turf with Brian Lee

Milton Bradley with Richard Johnson and Alex James (representing the sponsors of the award, Dragon TV and Film Studios).

LLANCARFAN'S Evan Williams is the Welsh trainer of the year.

At the recent Welsh Horse Racing Awards at Chepstow Racecourse, Williams took the Trainer of the Year category, sponsored by Gain Equine Nutrition.

His horses earned more than £660,000 prize money, mainly due to the exploits of his grey *Silver Streak* in the Champion Hurdle, Welsh Champion Hurdle and other big races.

The leading hurdler award, sponsored by Ffloyds Turfcare, Peter Villars and ICL also went to *Silver Streak*.

Ogmore-by-the Sea's Christian Williams, like his namesake Evan a former point-to-point rider, took the leading chaser category, sponsored by NAF, with his *Potters Corner* which won the Midlands Grand National.

Debra Hamer who hails from the Bridgend area saw her owners of *Tobefair*, the Down The Quay Club, presented with the 'owner of the year award' sponsored by the ROA.

Debra trains *Tobefair,* who has won two big Cheltenham staying hurdle handicaps and who suffered a narrow defeat when carrying top weight in the Pertemps Final.

Ben Jones, who is having a cracking season, won the Rising Star category, sponsored by Great British Racing, and Breeder of the Year was won by Llety Farms.

Jackie Coonick, a stable hand at Bernard Llewellyn's Bargoed yard, won the Stable Staff award, sponsored by Arena Racing Company.

David Probert took the Jockey of the Year award, sponsored by Cotts Equine and Chepstow's Milton Bradley, who has been training winners for more years than he probably cares to remember, took the Lifetime Achievement award. He received a standing ovation from all the 200 people in the audience. This award was sponsored by Dragon TV and Film Studios.

I remember interviewing Milton after one of his point-to-pointers had won at Penlyne Racecourse in the 1960s and he has come a long way since then, training winners on the flat, over hurdles and in steeplechases.

Brian Lee

Cottrell Park winners' night

Tina Morgan with Jennifer Thomas.

EARLIER this month, the Cottrell ladies gathered for their Christmas lunch.

There was a nine hole competition first, with only a few brave souls taking part in the inclement weather. This was won by Tessa Matthews, Lorraine Pointon-Bell and Regina Drew.

The lunch was well attended and the food and service excellent. Each lady had a gift from the Ladies' captain, Tina Morgan. After lunch the presentation of prizes took place.

Tina congratulated Jan Cosby who had a hole in one earlier in the year. Helen Evans, the vice captain, mentioned all the ladies who had represented Cottrell Park in various competitions and thanked them for their efforts. She announced that vice captain next year will be Judith Jessop.

Tina presented the prizes: there were 16 Stableford winners and eight medal winners.

The main competitions were won by: WG Medal, Dragon Brooch and Summer Eclectic Button – *Jennifer Thomas*.

Cup of Achievement and Summer Eclectic Mackintosh, Tessa Matthews. Summer League, *Rusty Fone*. Nine Hole Golfer of the year, *Patricia Davies*. Llanfair Trophy, *Eleanor Lewis.* Pencarrig Cup, *Judith Jessop*. Aberthin Trophy and the Birdie tree, *Helen Evans*. Super 70s Trophy and Par Competition, *Janet Cosby* and the Grandmother's Cup, *Jeannette Jones*.

There were many lovely raffle prizes and a special raffle for a beautiful decorated large Christmas cake, made by Regina Drew and won by Lyn German.

The pretty Christmas flower decorations on the tables made by Cheryl Hopkins were won by a member on each table. Tina thanked the staff and all her helpers for making it a special day and wished everyone a happy Christmas.

CB

Porthcawl Bridge Club latest news

RECENTLY, the club entered into the Christmas spirit, with a splendid Christmas party, catered by Jane Morgan followed by a competition for the Barrie Robinson salver (in memory of our previous club chairman), and won by Dave and Roger.

Other results from the club are:

November 23: first, Dave Nicklin and Roger Draper; Dave Lea and Bill Turner.

November 28: first, Keith Davison and Tony Haworth; second – Vida Halford and Glyn Williams.

November 30: first equal, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; Pat Roper and Tony Haworth.

December 5 Christmas Party: first, Dave Nicklin and Roger Draper; second, Chris Rawlings and Teresa Griffiths.

The club meets twice a week at the Awel-y-Mor centre, Thursdays 6.45pm – 9.45pm and Saturdays, 3.15pm - 6.15pm; visitors welcome at any time. To contact the club, call secretary Trish – 01656 785794.

TH

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Bevan's cool drop goal gives Ath a last gasp win

Ath hooker Lee Murphy crosses for his sixth try of the season. Photograph by John Canon.

A final play collector's piece drop goal from Bridgend Athletic outside half Luke Bevan saw the Athletic come away from Ammanford with their seventh straight win by 20–17 to leave them top of Division One West Central at Christmas.

The Athletic, playing with wind advantage but up the slope, dominated possession and territory in the first half.

After five minutes, scrum half Aled Thomas surprised the home defence by taking a quick tap penalty inside his own 22 and racing over the halfway line. A cross kick saw wing Sam Richards tackle the Ammanford defending wing inside his own half. Fellow wing Tom Davies gathered a clearance kick and clever interplay with full back Robin Davies saw Davies cross – but his name sake was ruled to have put a foot in touch making the scoring pass.

On 22 minutes outside half Luke Bevan made a break into the Ammanford 22. A series of drives by locks Ben Cording and Will Petchell and flanker Sean Williams saw Williams offload to supporting hooker Lee Murphy. Murphy extended his try scoring tally to six as he forced his way over under the posts. Bevan's conversion saw the Athletic take a 7-0 lead.

Ammanford struck back and a clean break looked likely to produce a try, but Ath No 9 Aled Thomas intercepted the scoring pass.

Thomas then provided a tactical kick into the home 22. Wing Richards caught the full back and Athletic pressure led to a penalty by Bevan for a 10-0 lead.

Another Thomas quick tap penalty on halfway saw flanker Ben Howe race into the home 22. An illegal tackle saw Bevan put the ball into touch five metres from the Ammanford line. Ammanford failed to halt the final play of the half - a driving maul resulting in No 8 Ben Davies crossing the white-wash. Bevan converted for an Athletic 17-0 half time lead.

In their last away game at Waunarlwydd, the Athletic held the same half time lead. Fate was to repeat itself with the Athletic digging deep and having to hang on for victory. The home side, boosted by some Llandovery permit players, took the game to the Athletic with lively forward and back play resulting in a try for full back Cerin Rees, converted by outside half Ryan Williams.

Ammanford continued to press and in the 55th minute were awarded a penalty five metres from the Athletic line. Scrum half Alex Davies took a quick tap penalty and was between the posts before the Athletic saw the danger. Williams converted to reduce the deficit to 17-14.

An anxious Athletic conceded several penalties. Ath centres Tom Morgan and Tom Jenkins were sound in defence, while props Matthew Muir and Wayne Fooks stood up to the pressure of a much heavier Ammanford eight, and No 8 Ben Davies excelled, picking up from scrums and driving back at the home side. With only five minutes remaining, more home pressure saw Williams level the scores from a penalty.

This served as a wake-up call for the Athletic and with fresh legs in lock Jonathon Stoker and prop Callum Swinford providing renewed impetus, they launched an all-out five-minute assault on the Ammanford line, retaining possession and going through the phases.

Lock Cording was held a metre from the line. It looked like a draw as the Athletic spilled possession and the referee called 'final play' with an Ammanford scrum inside their own 22. The ball was fed to outside half Williams, but Athletic flanker Ben Howe arrived with a crunching tackle, at the same time dislodging the ball.

The Athletic went back patiently on the attack and won a free play penalty. Thomas fed Bevan who coolly dropped a very rare Athletic goal to the relief of teammates and Athletic coaches and supporters to turn two points into four.

Athletic supporters must go back nearly four years to January 16, 2016, for the last occasion they witnessed the Athletic register a drop goal by Scot Govan in a Championship game v Beddau. In the end a side that now expects to win overcame a side that hoped to win.

The Athletic coaches John Apsee, David and Gerald Williams and team manager Paul Hearne gave man of the match to try scorer Lee Murphy, with Ben Davies, Ben Howe and Ben Cording running him close at forward, while half backs Thomas and Bevan were the pick of the backs. They also mentioned the late energy brought by replacements Jonathon Stoker and Callum Swinson.

The next game for the Athletic is at home on December 28 to Kenfig Hill, who three months ago replicated today's Athletic final play win, inflicting the only Athletic loss this season by 21-19.It is hoped a bumper seasonal crowd turn up at Newbridge Fields to see if the Athletic can stretch their undefeated run to nine games.

AB

Maesteg Celtic shock the league leaders!

LEFT: Maesteg Celtic scrum half Liam Healy tries to break a tackle.

MAESTEG Celtic faced league leaders Aberavon Quins on Garth Park for the first match of the second half of the season.

It was an intense encounter with no quarter asked or given. Both packs of forwards contested possession ferociously, with the Celtic front five of Sean Lambert, Morgan Reeves, Mark Wilkins, Kieran Power and Alex Jones taking the ball at the visitors relentlessly.

Celtic opened the scoring when outside half Tom George kicked into the visitors' 22 and great following up by wing Lee Arthur prevented the visitors from clearing the ball. Celtic put pressure on the defence but had to concede a scrum.

The Celtic pack put a push on and the Quins No 8 was forced to kick. Great anticipation by Alex Jones allowed him to charge the ball down and he followed up to score the try. Tom George converted.

Celtic went further ahead when scrum half Liam Healy broke through the defence and made ground before linking up with Alex Jones. The visitors killed the ball at the breakdown and George kicked the ensuing penalty.

The second half was as fiercely contested as the first, but Quins were not able to break the solid defence of the Celtic three-quarter line.

Centres Sam Mines and Kristian Jenkins tackled everything thrown at them while the back three of Lee Arthur, Scot James and Morgan Lloyd covered every attack and returned the possession with interest.

Outside half Tom George kicked two more penalties to increase the lead. The intensity of the encounter resulted in Celtic sustaining injuries to flanker Jonathan Davies, wing Scot James and centre Sam Mines.

Celtic replacements Simon Lent, Mathew Phillips, Rhys Bevan Jones, Ben Poole and Leon Evans fitted in seamlessly and although Quins pounded the home defence, they were unable to put any points on the board.

All 20 Celtic players deserved the man of the match award but it was shared between scrum half Liam Healy and flanker Tom Mines.

KS

Tondu's first-half lead fades away at Birchgrove

LEFT: Tondu's Luke Whitall makes a break. (Photograph by Gareth Anthony).

IT was another problematic day up front for Tondu RFC as they slipped to another defeat at Birchgrove by 29–18.

The opening exchanges showed some encouragement for the visitors as, after exerting most of the early pressure, they took the lead through a Luke Whitall penalty, only for Birch full back Matthew Edwards to return the compliment minutes later.

Some wonderful handling from the Tondu back division then saw Whitall cross for a try which he converted.

Whitall then added a second penalty to put his side into a 13-3 lead at the interval.

The second period is where things started to go downhill for visitors though. First came a second penalty from Edwards before the same player finished off a fine move with a try, adding the conversion to bring the scores level.

Tondu were now on the back foot and a string of infringements saw Edwards land three more penalties.

Birchgrove were now in total control and when No8 Josh Key finished off a splendid break down the right touchline, the game was effectively over, with the immaculate Matthew Edwards landing the conversion for a match tally of 24 points.

Tondu did manage a late try through prop forward Dayton Owens, but it was too little too late for the Waterwheelers as we enter the festive period.

Tondu are next in action at home to Nantyffyllon on Saturday, December 28, kick off 2.30pm.

Report by Mike Sully.
Photo by Gareth Anthony.